



Citizenship and
Immigration Canada

Citoyenneté et
Immigration Canada

RECENT IMMIGRANTS IN METROPOLITAN AREAS

STRATEGIC RESEARCH RECHERCHE ET EXAMEN
AND REVIEW STRATÉGIQUES

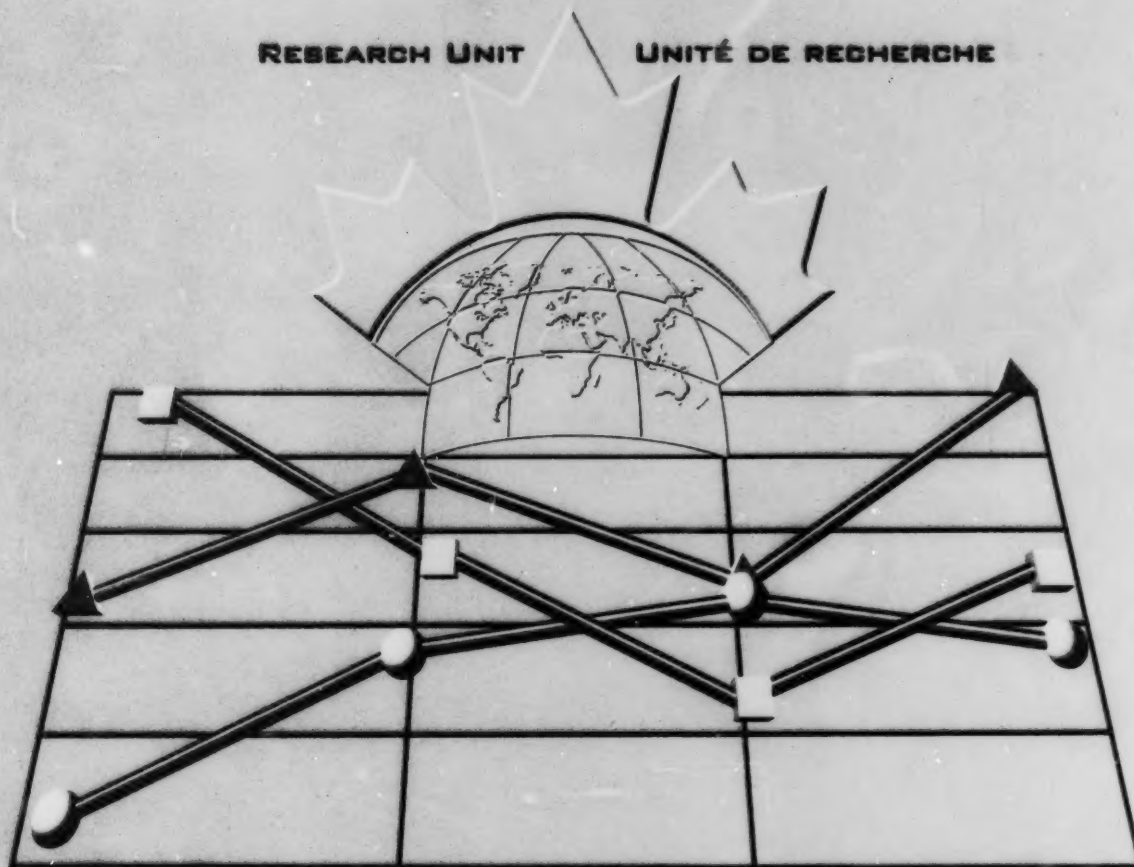
Recent Immigrants in the Ottawa Metropolitan Area

—
A Comparative Portrait
Based on the 1996 Census

September 2000

RESEARCH UNIT

UNITÉ DE RECHERCHE



Canada

Produced by Strategic Policy, Planning and Research

For additional copies, please contact:

Communications Branch
Citizenship and Immigration Canada
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 1L1
Tel.: (613) 954-9019
Fax: (613) 954-2221
Internet: <http://www.cic.gc.ca>

© Minister of Public Works and Government Services Canada, 2000
Cat. No. MP 22 - 20/12-2000 E
ISBN 0-662-29472-6

Aussi disponible en français sous le titre *Profil comparatif des nouveaux immigrants de la région métropolitaine d'Ottawa - d'après le recensement de 1996*



**RECENT IMMIGRANTS
IN THE
OTTAWA METROPOLITAN AREA**

**A COMPARATIVE PORTRAIT
BASED ON THE 1996 CENSUS**

**Prepared by
INFORMETRICA LIMITED**

**For
Citizenship and Immigration Canada**

August 2000

The opinions and interpretations expressed herein are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of Citizenship and Immigration Canada



Table of Contents

FOREWORD	vii
HIGHLIGHTS.....	ix
PART A: IMMIGRANTS AND RECENT IMMIGRANTS	1
148,100 immigrants in Ottawa Metropolitan Area	1
An increasing share of the population	2
One-half of immigrants landed after 1980	3
An increasing share of Ontario's and Canada's immigrants	4
70,900 recent immigrants – 9.4 per cent of the population	5
Eighty-five per cent of recent immigrants have become Canadian citizens	6
PART B: WHO ARE THE RECENT IMMIGRANTS?	8
Origin, destination and immigration class	8
Origins becoming more varied	8
A preferred destination	10
Large majority immigrated through family and economic class	12
Age and gender.....	14
Fewer children and persons over 44, more 25-44 year olds among recent immigrants	14
More women than men	16
Language and education.....	17
Large majority of very recent immigrants speak English or French	17
Two-thirds of very recent immigrants speak a foreign language at home	19
Level of education similar	20
Recent immigrants add to Ottawa's pool of scientists and engineers	22
Recent immigrants more likely to attend school	24
PART C: FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS	25
Family and household affiliation of individuals	25
Nine in ten recent immigrants live with relatives	25
Recent immigrants more likely to live in extended families	26
Families	28
24,200 recent immigrant families in Ottawa Metropolitan Area	28
Recent immigrant families more likely to have children in the home	30
Older recent immigrant families have more children living at home	31
Majority of recent immigrants married to other recent immigrants	32
Households	34
32,000 recent immigrant households in Ottawa Metropolitan Area	34
Recent immigrant households more likely to be larger than a nuclear family	36

<i>Recent immigrant households tend to be large</i>	38
<i>More care of children, less care of elders</i>	39
PART D: PARTICIPATION IN THE ECONOMY	40
Participation in the labour market	40
<i>Labour force participation lower but increasing with length of stay</i>	40
<i>Pattern of adjustment similar for almost all levels of education</i>	42
<i>Knowledge of English important for labour force participation</i>	44
<i>Unemployment not uncommon during initial years</i>	45
<i>Share of men and women with jobs increases with length of stay</i>	48
The jobs of recent immigrants	49
<i>Part-time jobs more common for very recent immigrants aged 25 to 64</i>	49
<i>Many employed recent immigrants in sale and services, health and science occupations</i>	50
<i>Many employed recent immigrants hospitality and other services</i>	52
<i>Skill requirements of jobs of recent immigrants lower</i>	54
<i>Education of recent immigrants not fully utilised</i>	56
PART E: INCOME	58
Sources and level of income	58
<i>Sources of income show effect of migration</i>	58
<i>Average income increases with length of stay</i>	60
<i>Earnings of recent immigrants who worked mostly full-time lower</i>	61
<i>Transfers from government a larger share of income except for seniors</i>	62
The distribution of income	64
<i>From majority with personal income below \$10,000 to a large share at high end over time</i>	64
<i>More than one-half of very recent immigrant households have income below \$40,000</i>	65
<i>Close to one-half of very recent immigrants live in families with low incomes</i>	66
PART F: HOUSING	69
<i>Crowded accommodation more common for recent immigrants</i>	69
<i>Large households likely to have crowded accommodation</i>	70
<i>Four in ten households of recent immigrants have high housing cost in relation to income</i>	71
<i>Housing of recent immigrants of same quality</i>	72
<i>Home ownership rare among very recent immigrants</i>	73

List of Tables

Table A.1: Total and Immigrant Population, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, Ontario, and Canada, 1981-1996	1
Table A.2: Immigrant population by period of immigration, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996	3
Table A.3: Recent immigrants, number and percentage of the population, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, Ontario and Canada, 1996	5
Table B.1: Immigrants' top ten places of birth, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996.....	8
Table B.2: Number of recent immigrants to Canada by country of birth and share residing in Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996	11
Table B.3: Recent immigrants by immigration class, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1981-1995	12
Table B.4: Number of women as a proportion of the population, by age group, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996.....	16
Table B.5: Proportion of men and women aged 15 years and over who immigrated between 1991 and 1996 able to speak English or French, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996	17
Table B.6: Highest level of education, persons aged 15 and over, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution).....	20
Table B.7: Persons with less than high school and persons with more than high school, as a share of the population, by age group, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996	21
Table B.8: Number of persons by major field of study, as a percentage of all persons with a post-secondary diploma or degree, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996.....	23
Table B.9: Persons attending school as a percentage of all persons in an age group, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996.....	24
Table C.1: Living arrangements, by age, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution).....	25
Table C.2: Persons living in nuclear and extended families as a percentage of the population living with relatives, by age group, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996	27
Table C.3: Family structure, by age of oldest spouse or lone parent, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution).....	29
Table C.4: Families with never-married children living at home, by number of children and age of family, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution).....	31
Table C.5: Couples in common-law relationships as a proportion of all husband-wife couples, by age of older partner, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996	33

Table C.6: Households by immigrant status of members of 15 years and over, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996	34
Table C.7: Household structure, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution).....	37
Table C.8: Size of households, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution).....	38
Table C.9: Proportion of persons spending time on unpaid care of children and elders, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996.....	39
Table D.1: Labour force participation rates of persons aged 15 to 64 by age and gender, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996.....	40
Table D.2: Labour force participation rates of persons 15 to 64 years old, by level of education and gender, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996.....	42
Table D.3: Labour force participation and knowledge of French or English of persons 15 to 64 years old, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996.....	44
Table D.4: Unemployment rates of persons aged 15 to 64 by age and gender, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996.....	45
Table D.5: Unemployment rates by level of education, ages 15 to 64, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996	46
Table D.6: Unemployment and knowledge of English and French, persons aged 15 to 64 years, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996.....	47
Table D.7: Employment ratio of persons aged 15 to 64 by age and gender, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996	48
Table D.8: Part-time employment as a share of employment, by age and gender, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1995.....	49
Table D.9: Occupations of employed women and men aged 25 to 64, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution).....	50
Table D.10: Employment by industry, persons aged 25 to 64, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution).....	52
Table D.11: Employment by level of skill, women and men aged 25 to 64, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution).....	54
Table D.12: Skill levels of jobs of university graduates, women and men aged 25 to 64, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution).....	56
Table E.1: Persons with income by source and without income, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1995 (as a percentage of the population of 15 years and over).....	58
Table E.2: Level of income and distribution of income by source, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1995	60
Table E.3: Wage and salary income of persons who worked mostly full-time, as a percentage of the overall average, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1995	61

Table E.4: Transfers from government to households, by age of household, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1995.....	62
Table E.5: Distribution of personal income, persons 15 years and over, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1995 (percentage distribution).....	64
Table E.6: Distribution of household income, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1995 (percentage distribution).....	65
Table E.7: Persons in families and unattached individuals with income below the median, as a percentage of all persons, by age and gender, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1995.....	67
Table E.8: Persons in families and unattached individuals with income below one-half of the median, as a percentage of all persons, by age and gender, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1995	68
Table F.1: Number of persons per room, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution).....	69
Table F.2: Persons per room and size of household, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution).....	70
Table F.3: Cost of accommodation as a share of household income, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1995 (percentage distribution).....	71
Table F.4: Period of construction, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution).....	72
Table F.5: Quality of housing, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution).....	72



List of Figures

Figure A.1: Number of immigrants as a percentage of the population, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, Ontario, and Canada, 1981-1996.....	2
Figure A.2: Percentage of Canada's and Ontario's immigrants residing in Ottawa Metropolitan Area, by period of immigration, 1996.....	4
Figure A.3: Canadian citizenship by country of birth, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996.....	7
Figure B.1: Age structure of the recent immigrant and Canadian-born population, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996.....	14
Figure B.2: Proportion of men and women aged 15 years and over who immigrated between 1991 and 1996 able to speak English or French, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996	18
Figure B.3: Use of a foreign language in the home as a percentage of the number of persons aged 15 and over, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996.....	19
Figure C.1: Persons living in an extended family as a percentage of the population living with relatives, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996.....	26
Figure C.2: Families with never-married children living at home, as a percentage of all families, by age of family, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996	30
Figure C.3: Recent immigrant families by type, showing immigrant status of spouses, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996	32
Figure D.1: Labour force participation rates by age and gender, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996	41
Figure D.2: Labour force participation rates of persons 15 to 64 years old, by level of education and gender, Ottawa Metropolitan Area 1996.....	43
Figure D.3: Occupations of employed women and men aged 25 to 64, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution).....	51
Figure D.4: Employment by industry, persons aged 25 to 64, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution).....	53
Figure D.5: Employment by skill level, women and men aged 25 to 64, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution).....	55
Figure D.6: Proportion of workers with a university degree who have a job requiring a university education, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996	57
Figure E.1: Persons in families and unattached individuals with income below the median and below one-half of the median, as a percentage of the population, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1995	66
Figure F.1: Households owning their home as a percentage of all households, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996.....	73



FOREWORD

This document presents a portrait of recent immigrants – persons who immigrated (“landed”) after 1980 - living in the Ottawa area in Ontario at the time of the 1996 census of population. It provides information, derived from the census, on the origin and background of immigrants, on family and household structure, on participation in the economy, on income and housing.

To assist the reader in interpreting the characteristics and circumstances of recent immigrants, comparisons are made throughout this document with earlier immigrants - those who arrived before 1981 - and with persons born in Canada. As well, recent immigrants have been subdivided into two groups: those who arrived in the 1980s and those who arrived in the first half of the nineties. The last group is variously called “most recent immigrants” or “very recent immigrants”. Grouping immigrants by period of landing is helpful when considering the adjustment of new immigrants to Canadian society and the economy, which takes time.

Canada’s immigration policy has various objectives: meeting labour market needs, family reunification, humanitarian goals. Policies have changed over time, and so has the background of new immigrants. As the categories through which immigrants are admitted are not identified in the census, this report does not relate the experience of immigrants to their immigration category. However, Canada’s immigration policies, along with conditions in countries of origin and in Canada, have an impact on the background and circumstances of recent immigrants as documented in this report.

The report also presents data on earlier immigrants. This is intended not so much as a second portrait, but rather as an indication of the likely future circumstances of recent immigrants. There is no guarantee, of course, that recent immigrants will assume the same place in Canada’s society and economy as have earlier generations of immigrants. There have been changes in the characteristics of immigrants over time. The Canadian population, society and economy have evolved as well. This portrait, however, indicates there is also a good deal of continuity in the characteristics of immigrants, and it shows that recent immigrants are making a place for themselves in this country. There are strong indications that the relative economic conditions of recent immigrants will improve with time after their arrival in Canada, for instance.

This portrait of recent immigrants living in the Ottawa area in Ontario is one of a series of 13 portraits for major urban centres where the overwhelming majority of recent immigrants live. Each of the 13 profiles highlights a census metropolitan area (CMA; for a definition see the text box on the next page). The CMAs or major urban agglomerations are: Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal, Victoria, Edmonton, Calgary, Saskatoon, Regina, Winnipeg, Hamilton, Ottawa, Quebec City and Halifax. Also available is a profile of recent immigrants in Canada. This profile covers the same material as the profiles for urban centres. It also provides comparisons between five geographic areas (Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal, the ten other cities combined, and the rest of Canada).

This comparative portrait of recent immigrants in Ottawa was prepared by Informetrica Limited and is published by Citizenship and Immigration Canada to inform the Canadian public, in particular persons and organisations with an interest in immigrants, including officials of provincial, regional and local governments, and organisations providing services to immigrants.

In this document, text boxes provide information of a technical nature about the topics covered, such as definitions of concepts used and notes to tables and charts. Here are some general points that may assist the reader:

Highlights are presented before the main report. The Highlights section is divided into six parts like the report itself.

Headings of topics summarise the thrust of the information presented, in telegram style. Thus, a quick impression of the characteristics and circumstances of recent immigrants can be gleaned from the table of contents. In the style used in the headings, all comparative statements refer to recent immigrants and the Canadian-born. Thus, "Fewer children among recent immigrants" means that children under 15 years of age make up a smaller proportion of recent immigrants than of the Canadian-born.

The text describes and comments on the data displayed in figures and tables. The text does not always quote the precise numbers in the tables, but states them in an approximate or rounded manner. For instance, "41%" may be described as "two-fifths" or "two out of five". As well, whereas tables and figures display information for two groups - immigrants who landed in the 1980s and those who landed during 1991-1996 - the text often refers to these jointly as "recent immigrants".

Numbers of people are rounded to the nearest 10 or 100, and as a rule no decimals are shown for percentages. Shares may not add to 100 per cent because of rounding.

Readers should be aware that there may be many reasons behind the differences featured in any display in this document: the background of immigrants, the experience of immigration, Canada's immigration policy, etc. One important source of difference is age structure. There are more adults aged 25 to 44 and fewer children among recent immigrants than the Canadian-born, and earlier immigrants on average are considerably older than recent immigrants or the Canadian-born. Age structure is examined in this portrait, and where differences in age are important, information is provided separately for age groups. However, readers are advised that differences in age can be a significant factor even when age is not explicitly addressed.

A census metropolitan area (CMA) consists of a large urban core with a population of at least 100,000 together with adjacent urban and rural areas that have a high degree of social and economic integration with the urban core.

In 1996, the Ottawa CMA (formally known as the Ontario part of the Ottawa-Hull CMA) included the following municipalities: Ottawa, Clarence, Rockland, Cambridge, Casselman, Russell, Osgoode, Cumberland, Gloucester, Vanier, Rockliffe Park, Nepean, Rideau, West Carleton, South Gower, Kanata and Goulbourn. Throughout this profile, the Ottawa CMA, with all of its component municipalities, is referred to simply as Ottawa.

The population data presented in this report do not include non-permanent residents. In 1996 for the first time, Statistics Canada included non-permanent residents in the population. There were 167,000 non-permanent residents in Canada in 1996, bringing the official population count to 28,528,000 instead of the 28,361,000 shown here.

HIGHLIGHTS

This portrait describes recent immigrants in the Ottawa metropolitan area (i.e. the Ontario part of the Ottawa-Hull urban agglomeration, "Ottawa" for short) as of 1996. Recent immigrants are immigrants who landed during the period 1981-1996. Immigrants who landed during 1991 to 1996 are called very recent or most recent immigrants.

The background, personal attributes and outcomes of immigrants reflect Canada's immigration policies, and the choices immigrants make as to where to live in Canada.

Labour market behaviour, the jobs of recent immigrants, and their income and housing conditions describe the adjustment of immigrants to the economy. This process clearly takes time. Many immigrants do not immediately access long-term jobs that match their formal education, and the initial years are marked by relatively low income, large households and crowded housing. As their stay lengthens, however, they more or less catch up to those who were here before, although some differences remain. In Ottawa, however, relatively high proportions of recent immigrants entered through the economic class, have income from investments, and own their homes.

Immigrants and recent immigrants (Part A)

- In 1996 there were 70,900 recent immigrants in Ottawa, 3.3 per cent of all recent immigrants living in Canada, accounting for 48 per cent of immigrants in Ottawa and 9.4 per cent of the population of the metropolitan area.
- Eighty-five per cent of immigrants who landed during the 1980s had become Canadian citizens by 1996. For Canada as a whole the proportion was 80 per cent.

Who are the recent immigrants (Part B):

- Recent immigrants living in Ottawa come from all over the world. Six of the top ten countries of birth of immigrants who landed during 1991-1996 are in Asia, one in Africa. One-quarter of recent immigrants born in Somalia make their home in Ottawa, as do one-eighth of those born in Lebanon and Ethiopia.
- Thirty-eight per cent of recent immigrants destined for Ottawa entered through the family class, and 35 per cent through the economic class. The share of refugees was 23 per cent, well above the national share of 14 per cent.
- One-half of recent immigrants are 25 to 44 years of age, and 16 per cent are children under 15. Of Ottawa's Canadian-born population, these groups make up one-third and one-quarter respectively. Fifty-two per cent of recent immigrants are women, a somewhat larger share than of the Canadian-born.

- Nine in ten very recent immigrants reported being able to conduct a conversation in either or both official languages. The proportion declines with age: it is close to 98 per cent in the 15-24 age group and one-half for persons of 65 years and over. Seventy-two per cent of very recent immigrants have command of English, 3 per cent have command of French, and 15 per cent are bilingual.
- For close to two out of three very recent immigrants the language most often spoken at home is neither English nor French, but a foreign language.
- The level of education of recent immigrants in Ottawa is similar to that of the Canadian-born, with men having on average a somewhat higher level, and women a slightly lower level. Recent immigrants as well as the Canadian-born have a higher education in Ottawa than in Canada generally. Recent immigrants contribute to the number of physical scientists and engineers. Adults pursue studies at a high rate.

Families and households (Part C)

- Very few recent immigrants, including seniors, live alone. About one in seven of those living with relatives (14%) live in an extended-family arrangement, almost three times the rate among the Canadian-born.
- Recent immigrant families are more likely than Canadian-born families to include never-married children, and this at a later stage in the life of the parents. Recent immigrant families are also somewhat larger than Canadian-born families.
- There are relatively more lone-parent families among recent immigrants than among the Canadian-born.
- Households consisting of recent immigrants with or without other Canadians make up 11 per cent of all households in Ottawa. Households of immigrants who landed during the 1990s account for somewhat less than one-half of recent immigrant households and 5 per cent of all households.
- Family households larger than a nuclear family are rather common among recent immigrants. One in seven households of recent immigrants, and only one in twenty households whose adult members are all Canadian-born are of this type. Households of recent immigrants are significantly larger than Canadian-born households.

Participation in the economy (Part D)

- The adjustment of immigrants to the economy takes time. Immigrants who landed during the 1990s have a lower rate of participation in the labour force, a higher unemployment rate, and jobs requiring a lower level of skill than the Canadian-born and earlier immigrants. Those who immigrated during the 1980s occupy a middle position.

- The fact that labour market and job skill level statistics of persons who immigrated before the 1980s closely resemble those of the Canadian-born suggests that the large majority of recent immigrants will in time fully adjust to and participate in the economy.
- The pattern of initially low labour force participation and high unemployment followed by convergence to the rates of the Canadian-born and earlier immigrants occurs across all age-gender groups and all but the lowest level of education. The disparities between recent immigrants and the Canadian-born tend to be smaller for men than for women.
- Lack of knowledge of official languages is a major barrier to labour force participation. However, it accounts for only a small part of the disparity in labour force participation of the most recent immigrants, and its significance diminishes over time as immigrants learn English or French.
- Employment of recent immigrants tends to be more than that of the Canadian-born in sales and services occupations, and in the hospitality and other services sector. The proportion of jobs of recent immigrants in administrative occupations and in the public sector is comparatively low. The jobs of recent immigrants require a somewhat lower level of skill, and the skills of recent immigrants, as reported in the Census, are not fully utilised.

Income (Part E)

- On average among persons reporting income for the year 1995, the income of very recent immigrants is one-half of that of the Canadian-born, while those who immigrated during the 1980s have reached 70 per cent of that level. The proportion of recent immigrants having employment income and especially having other private income such as investment and pension income is relatively low.
- Transfers from government make up a larger share of the income of recent immigrant households than of Canadian-born households for ages up to 65. For households of seniors, the share of transfers is significantly lower for recent immigrants than for the Canadian-born.
- Over time, the average income of immigrants increases. While one-half of the most recent immigrants have no income or income under \$10,000, only two in ten earlier immigrants do. The average individual and household income of earlier immigrants is higher than that of the Canadian-born.
- A very large share of very recent immigrants (close to one-half) experience low income, i.e., they live in families with income of less than one-half of median family income, or, if they do not live in a family, have income of less than one-half of the median income of unattached individuals. The proportion drops with increases in length of stay, and is the same for earlier immigrants as for the Canadian-born.

Housing (Part F)

- It is more common for recent immigrants than for the Canadian-born to live in crowded accommodation. One-quarter of recent immigrant households (26%) live in crowded conditions – i.e. have one person or more per room – compared to 3 per cent of Canadian-born households.

Forty percent of the households consisting only of very recent immigrants are crowded. Crowding is more common among larger recent immigrant households.

- It is more common for recent immigrants than the Canadian-born to spend a large share of household income on shelter. Four in ten recent immigrant households (41%) spend more than 30 per cent of their income on shelter, compared to one-quarter of Canadian-born households (24%). For households consisting only of persons who immigrated between 1991 and 1994, this share is more than one-half (56%).
- Home ownership is rare among households consisting of very recent immigrants only. Only one in ten (11%) of these households own their home, while between forty and fifty per cent of other recent immigrant households do so. Among the Canadian-born six in ten households (58%) own their home.

PART A: IMMIGRANTS AND RECENT IMMIGRANTS

148,100 Immigrants in Ottawa Metropolitan Area

Table A.1: Total and Immigrant Population, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, Ontario, and Canada, 1981-1996

	1981	1991	1996	Change 1981-1991		Change 1991-1996		Change 1981-1996	
				Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Ottawa CMA									
Immigrants	90,500	122,500	148,100	32,100	35%	25,500	21%	57,600	64%
Canadian-born	451,900	557,400	601,500	105,500	23%	44,100	8%	149,700	33%
Total Population	542,400	680,000	749,600	137,600	25%	69,600	10%	207,200	38%
Ontario									
Immigrants	2,009,600	2,369,200	2,724,500	359,600	18%	355,300	15%	714,900	36%
Canadian-born	6,524,700	7,481,700	7,844,400	957,000	15%	362,700	5%	1,319,700	20%
Total Population	8,534,300	9,850,900	10,568,900	1,316,600	15%	718,000	7%	2,034,600	24%
Canada									
Immigrants	3,827,500	4,342,900	4,971,100	515,400	13%	628,200	14%	1,143,600	30%
Canadian-born	20,256,000	22,427,800	23,390,300	2,171,800	11%	962,600	4%	3,134,300	15%
Total Population	24,083,500	26,770,600	28,361,400	2,687,100	11%	1,590,800	6%	4,277,900	18%

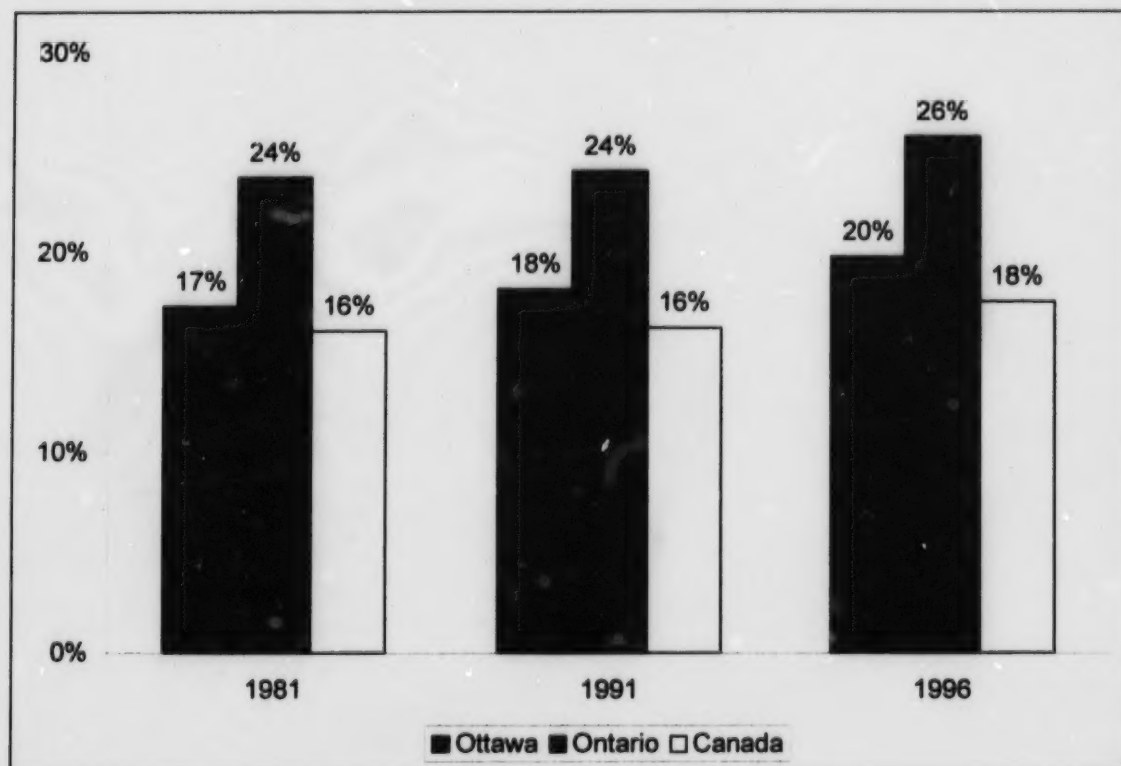
According to the census, there were 148,100 immigrants living in the Census Metropolitan Area (CMA; for a definition see the Foreword) of Ottawa (i.e., the Ontario part of the Ottawa-Hull urban agglomeration; the "Ottawa area" or "Ottawa" for short) in 1996. The immigrant population in Ottawa has greatly increased over the 15 years ending in 1996. Over the period spanning 1981 to 1996, the number of immigrants living in Ottawa increased by 57,600 or 64 per cent. In comparison, Ottawa's Canadian-born population increased by 149,700 or 33 per cent. Immigrants accounted for 28 per cent of Ottawa's total population growth between 1981 and 1996.

Between 1981 and 1996, the immigrant population in Ontario and in Canada increased by about one-third (36% and 30% respectively). In the most recent five-year period, between 1991 and 1996, the number of immigrants in Ottawa increased by 25,500, or 21 per cent. By comparison, the total number of immigrants living in Canada increased by 628,200 or 14 per cent during the same five years.

In 1996, Ottawa was the place of residence of 2.6 per cent of the population of Canada, up from 2.2 per cent in 1981 (shares not shown in Table A.1). The metropolitan area was home to similar share of Canada's immigrants and Canadian-born population: 3.0 per cent of Canada's five million immigrants in 1996, up from a 2.4 per cent share 15 years earlier, and 2.6 per cent of the 23.4 million Canadian-born persons, up from 2.2 per cent in 1981.

In 1996, Ottawa's share of Ontario's population was 7.1 per cent, up from 6.4 per cent 15 years earlier, its share of the province's immigrants was 5.4 per cent, compared to 4.5 per cent in 1981, and its share of the province's Canadian-born population was 7.7 per cent, compared to 6.9 per cent in 1981.

Figure A.1: Number of immigrants as a percentage of the population, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, Ontario, and Canada, 1981-1996



The proportion of Ottawa's population comprised of immigrants has steadily increased since 1981. In 1981, immigrants represented 17 per cent of the population. In 1996, immigrants accounted for 20 per cent of the population. The proportion of immigrants in the population of Ontario and in the population of Canada has increased during the first half of the 1990s. The proportion of immigrants in Ottawa's population remains lower than the proportion in Ontario and similar to the proportion in the country overall.

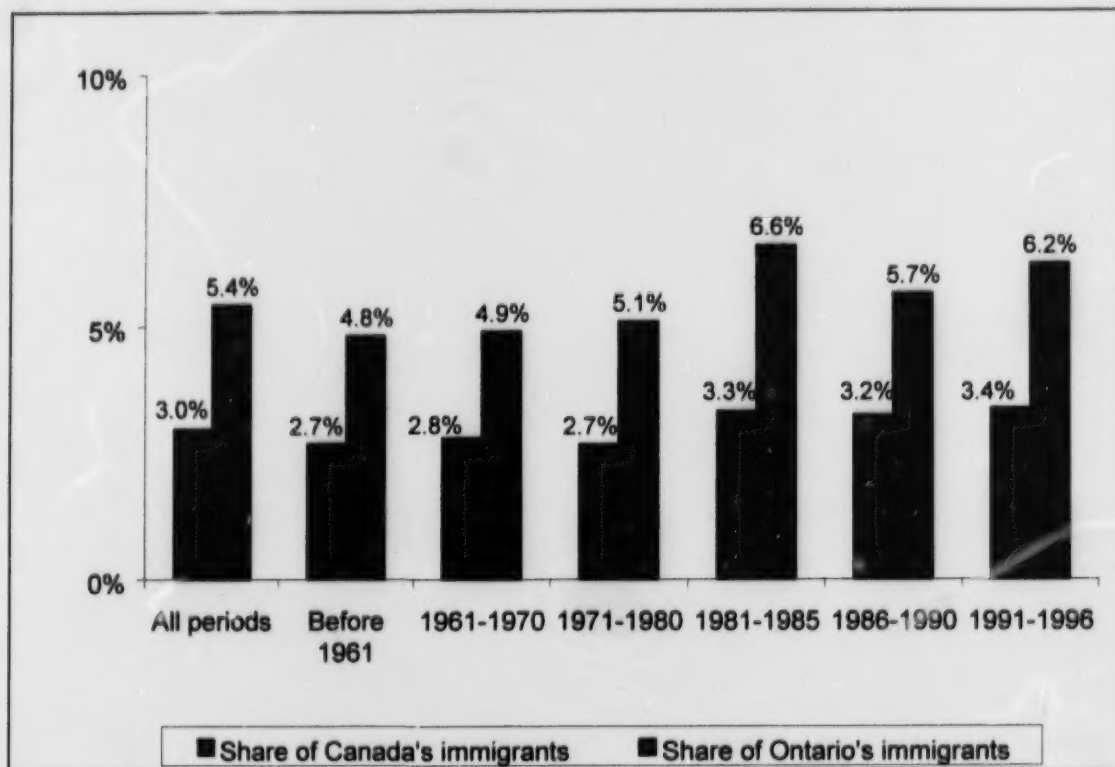
One-half of immigrants landed after 1980

Table A.2: Immigrant population by period of immigration, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996

Period of immigration	Ottawa		Ontario		Canada	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Before 1961	28,400	19%	588,800	22%	1,054,900	21%
1961-1970	22,100	15%	450,400	17%	788,600	16%
1971-1980	26,700	18%	523,000	19%	996,200	20%
1981-1985	13,300	9%	202,100	7%	401,400	8%
1986-1990	22,500	15%	397,200	15%	691,000	14%
1991-1996	35,100	24%	563,000	21%	1,039,000	21%
Total	148,100	100%	2,724,500	100%	4,971,100	100%

Many of Ottawa's immigrants have lived in Canada for a long time. More than one-half of the 148,100 immigrants living in Ottawa in 1996 arrived in Canada more than 15 years earlier. However, when compared with the immigrant population living in Ontario, and in all of Canada, Ottawa's immigrant population is distinguished by a high share of recent immigrants. Close to one-half of Ottawa's immigrants (48%) arrived in Canada after 1980. In Ontario, 43 per cent of immigrants arrived after 1980, and for Canada, the share is 43 per cent. Moreover, 24 per cent of immigrants living in Ottawa in 1996 arrived after 1990 compared with 21 per cent in the province of Ontario and 21 per cent in Canada.

Figure A.2: Percentage of Canada's and Ontario's immigrants residing in Ottawa Metropolitan Area, by period of immigration, 1996



In 1996, 3 per cent of Canada's 5 million immigrants were living in Ottawa. Ottawa's share of Canada's immigrants varies according to the period of immigration. It has a smaller share of immigrants who landed before the 1980s, less than 3 per cent, while more recently its share has been above 3 per cent.

In 1996, 5.4 per cent of Ontario's immigrants lived in Ottawa. Ottawa's share has increased from about 5 per cent of those who immigrated before 1981 to around 6 per cent of the most recent immigrants living in Ontario.

70,900 recent immigrants – 9.4 per cent of the population

Table A.3: Recent immigrants, number and percentage of the population, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, Ontario and Canada, 1996

Period of immigration	Ottawa		Ontario		Canada	
	Number	% of population	Number	% of population	Number	% of population
1981-1985	13,300	1.8%	202,100	1.9%	401,400	1.4%
1986-1990	22,500	3.0%	397,200	3.7%	691,000	2.4%
1991-1996	35,100	4.7%	563,000	5.3%	1,039,000	3.6%
Total 1981-1996	70,900	9.4%	1,162,300	10.9%	2,131,400	7.5%

In 1996, there were 70,900 recent immigrants (defined as those arriving in Canada after 1980) living in Ottawa, representing more than 9 per cent of the population. The share of Ottawa's population comprised of recent immigrants is larger than the national share of 7.5 per cent.

In Ottawa, the most recent arrivals - those who came to Canada in the 1991 to 1996 period - numbered 35,100, representing 4.7 per cent of the population of the metropolitan area. In Canada as a whole, the most recent arrivals numbered just over one million, representing 3.6 per cent of the total population.

Eighty-five per cent of recent immigrants have become Canadian citizens

By 1996, a large majority of Ottawa's immigrants who arrived in Canada during the 1980s – 85 per cent – had become Canadian citizens. Recent immigrants from most countries are becoming Canadians in high proportions, from 70 per cent to close to 100 per cent. Among Ottawa's ten top countries of birth of immigrants who landed during the 1980s (See Table B.1), more than 90 per cent of those from Hong Kong, Viet Nam, Poland and Iran had obtained Canadian citizenship by 1996, while between 70 and 90 per cent of those from the People's Republic of China, Lebanon, El Salvador, the United Kingdom and India had done so.

A significant share of immigrants from Western Europe, the United States, and a few other countries are postponing or forgoing Canadian citizenship. The rate of acquisition of Canadian citizenship by persons who immigrated from these countries during the eighties is less than 70 per cent, the lowest being 30 per cent. For western European countries especially, the rate of naturalization has dropped significantly from levels above 80 per cent for earlier immigrants.

Immigrants from these countries may want to keep open the option of returning to their country of birth. Depending on policies in countries of birth, people may not be able to retain their original nationality if they become Canadian citizens. As well, children born in Canada while the immigrant parents are still citizens of their country of birth may have certain rights in that country..

In today's global economic village there are more and more people who live in more than one country over the course of their working lives. To work in Canada, they may become landed immigrants; but they may not have the intention of becoming Canadian citizens, and may never do so.

The large majority of immigrants, however, clearly continue to opt to become Canadian citizens. Eighty five per cent of immigrants who landed during the eighties had already done so by June 1996; many more are likely to follow in the years to come.

Citizenship refers to a person's legal citizenship status, as reported in the 1996 census. In Canada, there is a residence requirement of three years before Canadian citizenship can be acquired. As a result, many immigrants who arrived in Canada between 1991 and 1996 were not yet eligible for Canadian citizenship at the time the census was carried out in 1996. For this reason, this group is not considered here. Instead, focus is on persons who immigrated between 1981 and 1990.

In preparing Figure A.3 we did not consider all countries of birth of recent immigrants living in Ottawa in 1996. A country was considered if:

- it is the place of birth of at least 10,000 immigrants living in Canada, and
- if the number of immigrants of the 1980s born in that country and living in Ottawa is at least 50.

To increase the comparability with information from earlier censuses, we regrouped together in "Countries of the former USSR", "Countries of the former Czech and Slovak Federal Republic" and in "Countries of the former Yugoslavia" former member countries of these blocks, which may be listed in Figure A.3, and in Tables B.1 and B.2 in the next section. These countries are:

Countries of the former USSR: *Ukraine, Russian Federation, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Belarus, Moldova, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.*

Countries of the former Czech and Slovak Federal Republic: *Czech Republic and Slovakia.*

Countries of the former Yugoslavia: *Yugoslavia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Slovenia, and Macedonia.*

Figure A.3: Canadian citizenship by country of birth, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996

More than 90 percent of Ottawa's immigrants who arrived in Canada during the eighties and were born in these countries have become Canadian citizens: Bangladesh Kenya Syria Romania Hong Kong Trinidad and Tobago Somalia Korea, South Countries of former U.S.S.R. Cambodia Republic of South Africa Ethiopia Ireland, Republic of (Eire) Viet Nam Philippines Laos Sri Lanka Poland Morocco Iran Hungary Switzerland Countries of former Czech and Slovak Federal Republic Haiti	Less than 70 percent of Ottawa's immigrants who arrived in Canada during the eighties and were born in these countries have become Canadian citizens: Spain Japan Mexico Chile Malaysia Germany United States Portugal Belgium Netherlands Australia	More than one-third of Ottawa's immigrants who arrived in Canada during the eighties and were born in these countries have dual citizenship: Switzerland Argentina Ireland, Republic of (Eire) Syria Bangladesh Romania Israel Poland Turkey Trinidad and Tobago Countries of former Czech and Slovak Federal Republic Lebanon Pakistan Hungary United Kingdom
Percent of immigrants with Canadian Citizenship (including those with dual citizenship) Immigrated before 1981: 90% Immigrated 1981-1990: 85%		Percent of immigrants with dual citizenship Immigrated before 1981: 16% Immigrated 1981-1990: 22%

Overall, more than two in ten immigrants who landed during the 1980s (22%) had acquired Canadian citizenship while retaining the citizenship of another country. Dual citizenship is more common among recent than earlier immigrants. Among Ottawa's immigrants who arrived in Canada before 1981, one in six (16%) reported dual citizenship in 1996.

PART B: WHO ARE THE RECENT IMMIGRANTS?

Origin, destination and immigration class

Origins becoming more varied

Table B.1: Immigrants' top ten places of birth, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996

Place of Birth	Number	Percentage		Number	Percentage
Immigrated 1991-1996					
1 Somalia	3,290	9%	Total of top ten countries	17,725	50%
2 China	3,120	9%			
3 Lebanon	2,560	7%	All other countries	17,425	50%
4 India	1,410	4%			
5 Viet Nam	1,410	4%	Total	35,150	100%
6 Countries of former Yugoslavia	1,325	4%			
7 Countries of former USSR	1,210	3%			
8 Philippines	1,190	3%			
9 Poland	1,170	3%			
10 Iran	1,040	3%			
Immigrated 1981-1990					
1 Lebanon	3,030	8%	Total of top ten countries	18,080	50%
2 United Kingdom	2,490	7%			
3 Viet Nam	2,490	7%	All other countries	17,730	50%
4 Poland	2,200	6%			
5 China	1,760	5%	Total	35,810	100%
6 India	1,450	4%			
7 Iran	1,280	4%			
8 United States	1,260	4%			
9 El Salvador	1,130	3%			
10 Hong Kong	1,020	3%			
Immigrated before 1981					
1 United Kingdom	18,730	24%	Total of top ten countries	49,580	64%
2 Italy	7,010	9%			
3 United States	5,020	7%	All other countries	27,540	36%
4 Germany	4,310	6%			
5 Lebanon	3,090	4%	Total	77,120	100%
6 India	3,080	4%			
7 Netherlands	2,850	4%			
8 Jamaica	1,890	2%			
9 Portugal	1,870	2%			
10 China	1,750	2%			

Ottawa's immigrants come from the world over, and represent a diversity of cultural and linguistic backgrounds. In the seventies and before, Europe was the main source. Recent immigrants tend to come from countries all over the Asian continent.

In 1996, for example, there were 35,150 residents of Ottawa who had very recently landed in Canada, between 1991 and 1996. The most common country of birth for these immigrants was Somalia, an African country, accounting for 9 per cent of these new arrivals to Ottawa. Of the ten top countries of birth, six were Asian countries – the People's Republic of China, Lebanon, India, Viet Nam, the Philippines and Iran – and together these accounted for close to one-third (30%) of these very recent immigrants. The countries of former Yugoslavia and Poland were the only European countries (a part from certain countries of the former USSR) among the top ten countries of birth; these accounted for 4 and 3 per cent of the number of very recent immigrants.

Of the six Asian countries, three were among the top ten source countries before 1981 – Lebanon, India and the People's Republic of China - with a combined share of 10 per cent. Their share of very recent immigrants is 20 per cent. Prior to 1981, the United Kingdom supplied one quarter of immigrants living in Ottawa, followed by four European countries with a combined share of 21 per cent, and the United States where 7 per cent of the earlier immigrants were born.

A preferred destination

Table B.2 does not list all countries of birth of recent immigrants living in Ottawa in 1996. A country is included if:

- it is the place of birth of at least 10,000 recent immigrants living in Canada in 1996, and
- if the number of recent immigrants born in that country and living in Ottawa is at least 0.5 per cent (rounded to 1 per cent in the table) of the number living in all of Canada.

For some immigrant groups, Ottawa is a preferred area of residence. For example, of the 16,500 Somalia-born individuals living in Canada who immigrated between 1981 and 1996, 4,230 or 26 per cent were living in Ottawa in 1996. Ottawa is also home to a relatively large share of Ethiopia- and Lebanon-born recent immigrants to Canada (13%). This is in contrast to the settlement patterns of recent immigrants born in Hong Kong, the Philippines and Taiwan, of whom only one per cent were residing in Ottawa in 1996.

Table B.2: Number of recent immigrants to Canada by country of birth and share residing in Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996

Countries of Birth	Total Recent Immigrants to Canada	Share residing in Ottawa
Somalia	16,475	26%
Ethiopia	13,340	13%
Lebanon	44,280	13%
Cambodia	14,810	6%
Iraq	14,335	6%
Haiti	28,710	6%
Iran	43,470	5%
Countries of former Czech and Slovak Federal Republic	12,125	5%
Egypt	15,075	5%
El Salvador	37,745	4%
Countries of former U.S.S.R.	34,925	4%
Viet Nam	97,550	4%
Afghanistan	10,720	4%
United Kingdom	88,870	4%
Guatemala	12,160	3%
Peru	11,705	3%
Total – Recent Immigrants	2,131,400	3%
Jamaica	50,975	3%
Countries of former Yugoslavia	45,435	3%
China, People's Republic of	153,295	3%
Poland	110,350	3%
Romania	29,860	3%
Morocco	10,295	3%
Pakistan	26,360	3%
United States	75,435	3%
Germany	25,500	3%
Malaysia	12,895	3%
Total – Canadian-born	23,390,300	3%
Italy	11,905	2%
France	21,455	2%
Ghana	11,295	2%
India	139,425	2%
Mexico	18,325	2%
Sri Lanka	63,780	2%
Trinidad and Tobago	27,855	2%
Philippines	127,765	1%
Guyana	43,220	1%
South Africa, Republic of	14,770	1%
Chile	12,150	1%
Portugal	42,550	1%
Hong Kong	185,895	1%
Korea, South	30,270	1%
Taiwan	43,415	1%

Large majority immigrated through family and economic class

The number of immigrants destined for Ottawa more than doubled from 1981-85 to 1991-95, as a result of Canada's decision to admit more immigrants. More persons were admitted through each of the major classes. The family class makes up 35 to 40 per cent of the total, and the economic class one third on average over the three periods. The share of the economic class decreased in the last five-year period as that of the family class increased. The refugee share is 23 per cent, significantly higher than the Canadian average of 14 per cent. During the early 1990s, a small number of persons living in the country were formally admitted as landed immigrants (in the "other" class).

According to the census, there are fewer recent immigrants living in Ottawa in 1996 than the number who landed during the period 1981-1995 (see Table A.3). This reflects the fact that recent immigrants who have subsequently moved away from the area or have died outnumber those who have moved to Ottawa from other parts of the country.

Table B.3: Recent immigrants by immigration class, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1981-1995

	1981-1985	1986-1990	1991-1995
Family class	5,700	8,200	14,400
Economic class	5,600	9,900	10,600
Refugees	3,600	5,300	8,600
Other	300	400	2,300
Total	15,200	23,800	35,900

The 1996 Census did not ask immigrants about the immigration categories through which they were admitted to Canada. This information is available only from records at Citizenship and Immigration Canada, and pertains to the time of landing.

Under Canada's immigration policy there are three major categories of immigration. These categories correspond broadly to the economic, family reunification and humanitarian or protection objectives of the Immigration Act. Hence, persons entering the country as immigrants or refugees have different reasons to do so and accordingly are likely to face different challenges and opportunities after landing in Canada.

Immigrants entering through the *economic* category are persons who have actively sought to settle in Canada and have presumably prepared themselves for the transition. They are selected as individuals and may be accompanied by a spouse and dependants. Only the selected immigrants are assessed against criteria designed to maximise the probability of success in the labour market or in business. Spouses and dependants in this category are not screened against selection criteria but are nevertheless part of the family unit who shared in the decision to move and participated in the preparations for transition. Less than one-half of the economic category are screened against selection criteria.

The *family reunification* category is made up of individuals who are joining family members already established in Canada. These immigrants are not assessed against labour market criteria. They are, however, sponsored by a relative in Canada who is a Canadian citizen or permanent resident and who has taken the responsibility of providing support for their settlement. Hence, those in the family reunification category are less likely than their counterparts in the economic category to have moved for economic reasons directly related to the labour market or business.

The *refugee* category is made up of Convention refugees and other refugee-like persons who are deemed to require protection or relief. These persons may not have wanted to leave their country of origin and may not have had the opportunity to prepare for moving to Canada. Refugees are expected to take longer to adjust to their new environment and their economic achievements may be modest compared to those of immigrants in the economic category.

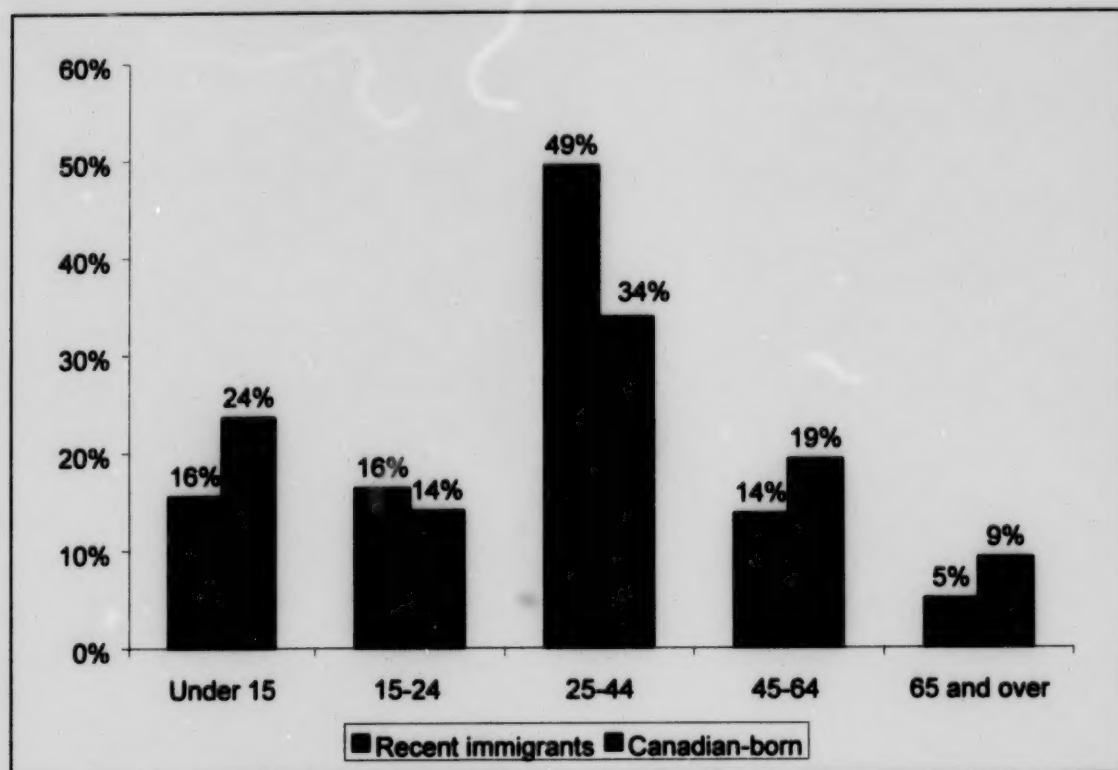
During the period 1981-1995, immigrants were also admitted, in smaller numbers, through special categories or programs established for humanitarian or public policy reasons. These *other* immigrants include, for instance: live-in caregivers in Canada, members of the former retired immigrant class, Post-Determination Refugee Claimants in Canada and persons landed through the Deferred Removal Order Class and the Backlog Clearance program.

The number and characteristics of immigrants by immigration category have been shown to have an impact on the adjustment process and are reflected in the statistics on immigrants presented in this report. In addition, other factors that influence the circumstances of the population of Canada, and in particular metropolitan areas, also have an effect on the conditions of recent and earlier immigrants living in these areas.

This section presents, by category of immigration, the number of immigrants landed between 1981 and 1995 who indicated they intended to settle in the Ottawa metropolitan area. These numbers are presented for indicative purposes only. They cannot be taken as an accurate description of the population of recent immigrants in the Ottawa area as some have, for instance, moved away, some have died, and other recent immigrants may have moved to Ottawa from other parts of Canada.

Fewer children and persons over 44, more 25-44 year olds among recent immigrants

Figure B.1: Age structure of the recent immigrant and Canadian-born population, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996



The age distribution of the recent immigrant population (those arriving between 1981 and 1996) is markedly different from that of the Canadian-born population, with a larger proportion aged 25 to 44, and proportionally fewer children under 15. In 1996, almost one-half of recent immigrants living in Ottawa (49%) were between the ages of 25 and 44, compared with one-third (34%) of Canadian-born individuals. Children under 15 accounted for 16 per cent of the recent immigrant population compared with 24 per cent for Canadian-born children. Persons of 45 years and over made up 19 per cent of recent immigrants and 28 per cent of the Canadian-born.

These differences in age structure result from two factors. The first is age at arrival in Canada. Immigrants tend to arrive in Canada during their prime working-age years. This was the case among immigrants who arrived more than 30 years ago, and it is still the case today. It is therefore not surprising that a large share of recent immigrants were within the 25 to 44 age group at the time of the 1996 census.

The second factor is ageing. Only a small percentage of recent immigrants are children. On average across the country, about 20 per cent of recent immigrants were children under 15 years of age at the time of their arrival in Canada. But by 1996, many of these children had lived in the country for several years, and had since become youths or young adults. Children born in Canada to immigrant parents are not themselves considered immigrants, but are part of the Canadian-born population. Thus, the smaller proportion of children within the recent immigrant population should not be taken as an indication of lower fertility rates among immigrants.

Earlier immigrants, for the same two reasons, tend to be older than recent immigrants and the population born in the country. In the Ottawa area, more than three-quarters (77%) of immigrants who arrived prior to 1981 are over 45 years old (not shown in Figure B.1), compared to 28 per cent of the Canadian-born. The reader may want to bear this in mind, since many of the characteristics and circumstances described in this profile vary with age. Differences between groups of immigrants and the Canadian-born may be a reflection of differences in age. Often other factors play a role as well, as will be shown.

Table B.4: Number of women as a proportion of the population, by age group, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996

Age in 1996	Recent Immigrants	Canadian-born
0 to 15	49%	49%
15 to 24	50%	50%
25 to 44	52%	51%
45 to 64	54%	51%
65 and over	61%	59%
All ages	52%	51%
Total number of women	36,800	306,100
Total number of men	34,100	295,500

The proportion of women in the recent-immigrant population in Ottawa is higher than that of the Canadian-born population. The number of women is particularly high among recent immigrants from the Philippines (65 per cent are women; there are 550 more women than men; data for individual countries of birth not shown). Many of these have obtained permanent resident status after a period of employment as live-in caregivers. The share of women is 57 per cent or higher for among recent immigrants from Jamaica, Haiti, Germany and the United States, and women from these countries outnumber men by 200 to 300.

As women on average live longer than men, they make up a large share of persons aged 65 years and over. But the higher proportion of women among recent immigrants is not related to differences in age structure, but results from the fact that women make up a larger share of recent immigrants than of the Canadian-born in three of the five age groups.

At the opposite end of the spectrum of gender mix are Iran, Sri Lanka, Iraq, Egypt and Bangladesh. Among recent immigrants from these five countries men outnumber women by more than 100, and the men's share is between 57 and 60 per cent. For most other countries, the gender mix is more even than for the countries listed.

Large majority of very recent immigrants speak English or French

Table B.5: Proportion of men and women aged 15 years and over who immigrated between 1991 and 1996 able to speak English or French, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996

	English	French	Both English and French	Total
Women				
15 - 24	70%	6%	21%	97%
25 - 44	78%	3%	14%	95%
45 - 64	54%	4%	6%	64%
65 and over	31%	7%	6%	43%
Ages 15 and over	70%	4%	14%	88%
Men				
15 - 24	77%	3%	19%	98%
25 - 44	78%	2%	17%	97%
45 - 64	67%	2%	10%	78%
65 and over	42%	5%	6%	54%
Ages 15 and over	74%	2%	16%	92%

A large majority of Ottawa's immigrants of 15 years and over report being able to carry on a conversation in at least one of Canada's two official languages. Even among very recent immigrants, who landed between 1991 and 1996, 90 per cent reported ability to speak an official language (88% for women and 92% for men). One in ten of these most recent immigrants could not speak either official language. Of all very recent immigrants of 15 years and over living in Ottawa, about one in seven can speak both English and French (14% for women and 16% for men). In Ottawa as elsewhere, knowledge of official languages is more widespread among those who immigrated in earlier periods: 94 per cent of those arriving between 1981 and 1990, and 97 per cent of those arriving before 1981 indicated ability to speak an official language (not shown in Table B.5).

Most recently immigrated women are somewhat less likely than men to have conversational knowledge of English or French. Among Ottawa's women who immigrated between 1991 and 1996, for example, 12 per cent could speak neither English nor French. The comparable figure among men arriving in this period was 8 per cent.

The proportion of Ottawa's immigrants able to carry on a conversation in English or French decreases with age. Among younger immigrants who landed in Canada between 1991 and 1996, almost all are able to speak an official language, and there is little difference between men and women in this regard. Among those between the ages of 25 and 44, a large majority - 97% of men and 95% of women - report ability to speak an official language. Among those aged 45 to 64, however, the percentage that



can speak English or French falls sharply, and more so for women than men (78% of men and 64% of women). For both men and women, seniors aged 65 and over are least likely to have conversational ability in English or French (54% of men and 43% of women).

Close to three-quarters of very recent immigrants in Ottawa speak English (74% of men and 70% of women) and one in seven speak both English and French (16% of men and 14% of women). Only a very small share reports knowledge of French only (2% men and 4% of women).

Immigrant women make up the majority of those unable to speak English or French. In Ottawa, for example, there were a total of 2,740 immigrants of 15 years of age and over who had landed in Canada between 1991 and 1996 and could speak neither official language at the time of the 1996 census (not shown in Table B.5). Women accounted for over three-fifths (65%) of this number. A large number of immigrants who are without knowledge of official languages are women aged between 45 and 64. They made up 8 per cent of all immigrants of 15 years of age and over who arrived between 1991 and 1996, but accounted for 29 per cent of those unable to speak English or French.

Figure B.2: Proportion of men and women aged 15 years and over who immigrated between 1991 and 1996 able to speak English or French, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996

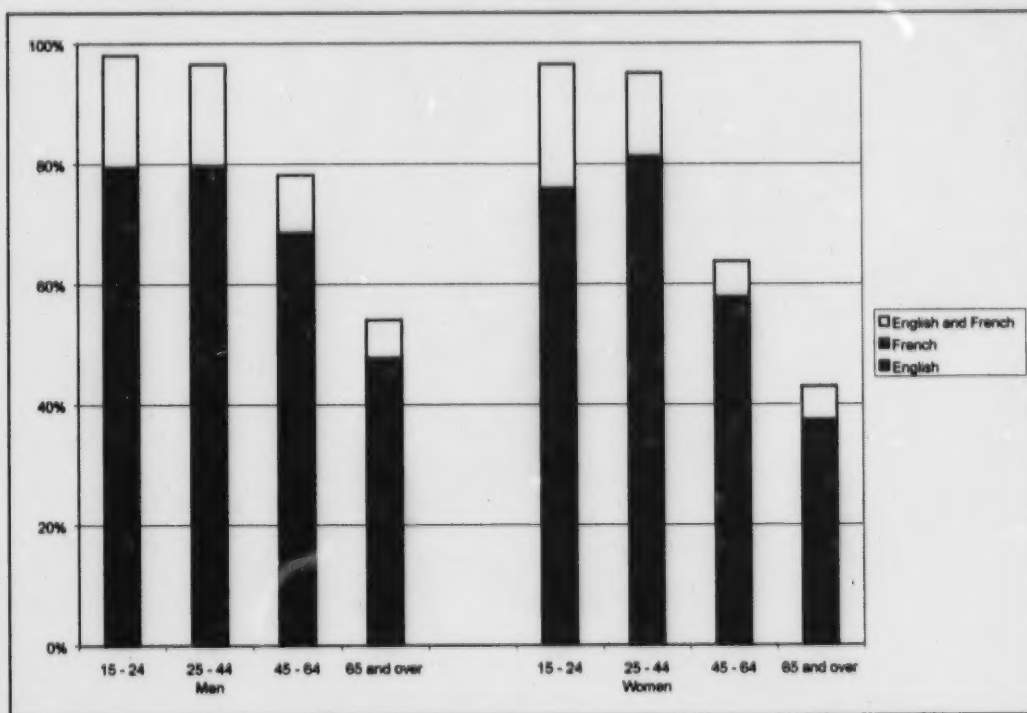
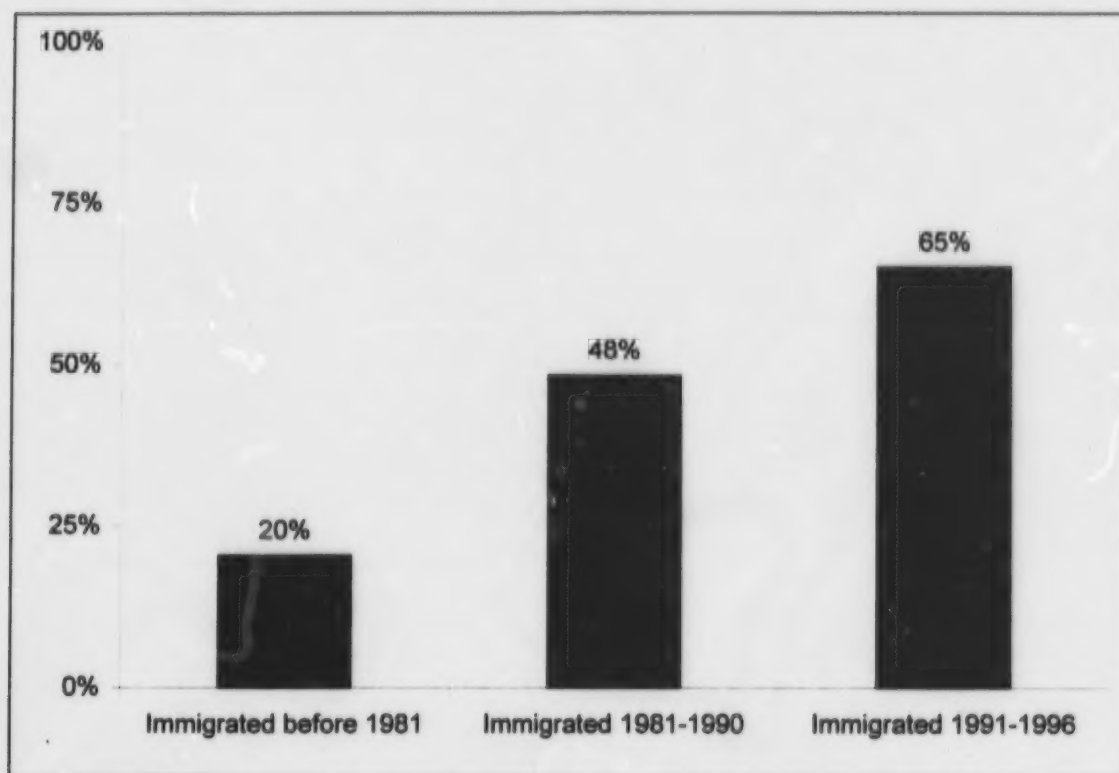


Figure B.3: Use of a foreign language in the home as a percentage of the number of persons aged 15 and over, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996



For the majority of Ottawa's very recent immigrants aged 15 years and over the language spoken most often at home is one other than English or French. Close to two-thirds (65%) of immigrants who landed between 1991 and 1996 most often speak a foreign language within their homes. Of all very recent immigrants in Canada, a similar share (67%) speaks a foreign language at home (not shown in Figure B.3).

The use of English in the home is considerably higher among those who immigrated in earlier periods. Forty-eight per cent of those who immigrated between 1981 and 1990, and 77 per cent of those who immigrated prior to 1981 indicated that English was the language most frequently spoken at home. French is most often spoken at home by 3 per cent of these groups (not shown in Figure B.3).

Level of education similar

Highest level of education refers to the education attained at the time of the census in May 1996. It does not refer to education level upon arrival in Canada. Immigrants may have received additional schooling in Canada after their arrival.

The education level of Ottawa's recent immigrant population is similar to that of Ottawa's Canadian-born population. For instance, the proportion holding a university degree is higher for very recently immigrated men (34%) than for Canadian-born men (25%), but the proportion having a trade or college diploma is lower (18% compared to 25%). For women the same pattern of differences is observed.

At the opposite end of the spectrum one finds a larger proportion of recently immigrated than of the Canadian-born. Very few Canadian-born women (5%) have less than grade 9, compared with 12 to 13 per cent of recent immigrants. For men the shares are 5 and 7 per cent respectively.

Table B.6: Highest level of education, persons aged 15 and over, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Less than grade 9	Some high school	High school diploma	College or trade diploma	University degree	Number of persons
Women						
Canadian-born	5%	19%	28%	26%	22%	237,000
Immigrated before 1981	14%	14%	20%	29%	24%	39,900
Immigrated 1981-1990	13%	15%	23%	25%	23%	16,700
Immigrated 1991-1996	12%	18%	24%	20%	25%	14,800
Men						
Canadian-born	5%	20%	25%	25%	25%	222,500
Immigrated before 1981	11%	9%	15%	27%	38%	37,200
Immigrated 1981-1990	7%	17%	22%	23%	31%	15,600
Immigrated 1991-1996	7%	17%	24%	18%	34%	12,800

Table B.7: Persons with less than high school and persons with more than high school, as a share of the population, by age group, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996

	No high school diploma			With post-secondary diploma or degree		
	25-44	45-64	65 and over	25-44	45-64	65 and over
Women						
Canadian-born	11%	24%	48%	62%	50%	28%
Immigrated before 1981	12%	24%	49%	66%	59%	32%
Immigrated 1981-1990	17%	35%	69%	62%	49%	15%
Immigrated 1991-1996	18%	46%	69%	60%	36%	15%
Men						
Canadian-born	14%	23%	40%	62%	57%	42%
Immigrated before 1981	12%	19%	32%	67%	70%	56%
Immigrated 1981-1990	15%	23%	54%	65%	65%	31%
Immigrated 1991-1996	13%	28%	50%	66%	56%	36%

When education levels are compared by age group, it appears that the younger generation has a much higher level of education, whether born in or outside Canada. For instance, 11 per cent of women and 14 per cent of men under 45 years born in Canada have not completed high school, compared to 48 per cent of women of 65 and over, and 40 per cent of older men. One-half or more Canadian-born under 65 years of age have a post-secondary diploma or degree, compared to 42 per cent of men over 65 and 28 per cent of women. A similar shift in educational qualifications is observed among immigrants. Thus, the level of education of immigrants generally differs more by age than by period of immigration.

Recently immigrated men of working age and young women have about the same level of education as Canadian-born of the same age. Immigrated women aged 45 to 64 have a lower level of educational attainment than the Canadian-born. For instance, one-third of women (36%) aged 45 to 64 years who landed after 1991 have a post-secondary diploma or degree, compared to one-half of the Canadian-born (50%).

At present, Canada is a world leader with respect to educational attainment of the population. This makes it unlikely for recent immigrants as a group to have the same or higher educational qualifications as persons born in Canada, in particular since education and skills play a role in the selection of only a certain proportion of immigrants. Further, the level of education of the Canadian-born in Ottawa is significantly higher than that in Canada as a whole. Recent immigrants in Ottawa also have more education than recent immigrants generally, but not to the same degree as the Canadian-born (not shown in Table B.7).

Recent immigrants add to Ottawa's pool of scientists and engineers

Major field of study refers to the predominant area of learning or training of a person's highest post-secondary diploma or degree. Ten major areas of study have been grouped in Table B.8 as follows:

- (1) Physical sciences, engineering and trades:
 - Engineering and applied science technologies and trades
 - Engineering and applied sciences
 - Mathematics and physical sciences
 - Agricultural and biological sciences/technologies
- (2) Social sciences, education, and arts
 - Social sciences and related fields
 - Educational, recreational and counselling services
 - Humanities and related fields
 - Fine and applied arts
- (3) Commerce, management and business administration
- (4) Health professions, sciences and technologies

The data pertain only to persons who have a post-secondary – trade or college – certificate or diploma or a university degree.

More than six out of ten men who immigrated after 1980 and have a post-secondary diploma or degree majored in physical sciences, engineering or trades (62%). This is a significantly larger share than among Canadian-born men (47%). Among women with a post-secondary diploma or degree, one in four recent immigrants (25%) have studied some physical science or technology, more than twice the share of Canadian-born women (11%).

By contrast, recent immigrants are represented in smaller proportions than the Canadian-born in the social sciences, education and arts. Close to one-half of Canadian-born women (47%) have diplomas or degrees in these fields, compared to just four in ten recently immigrated women (39%). For men, the share of diplomas and degrees in the social fields of studies is three out of ten Canadian-born (31%) and two out of ten recent immigrants (20%). Diplomas and degrees in commerce, management and business administration are also not as common for recent immigrants as for the Canadian-born.

Table B.8: Number of persons by major field of study, as a percentage of all persons with a post-secondary diploma or degree, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996

	Canadian-born	Immigrated 1981 - 1996
Women		
Physical sciences, engineering and trades	11%	25%
Social sciences, education, and arts	47%	39%
Commerce, management and business administration	25%	21%
Health professions, sciences and technologies	17%	16%
Number of persons with post-secondary diploma or degree	112,500	14,700
Men		
Physical sciences, engineering and trades	47%	62%
Social sciences, education, and arts	31%	20%
Commerce, management and business administration	19%	13%
Health professions, sciences and technologies	4%	6%
Number of persons with post-secondary diploma or degree	111,600	15,000

Recent immigrants more likely to attend school

School attendance refers to either part-time or full-time attendance at school, college or university during the eight-month period between September 1995 and May 14, 1996. Attendance is counted only for courses which could be used as credits towards a certificate, diploma or degree.

Recent immigrants are more likely than pre-1981 immigrants and the Canadian-born to be attending school, and in some cases by a considerable margin, depending on age and period of landing. Among women between 25 and 44 years of age, for example, 39 per cent of immigrants who landed between 1991 and 1996 were attending school compared with 15 per cent of the Canadian-born.

Among young adults, the share attending school is also higher for recent immigrants than for persons born in Canada. Persons aged 15 to 19 years, who have a higher rate of school attendance than those between 20 and 24 years, make up a smaller share of recent immigrants than of the Canadian-born (not shown). Thus, the higher rate of school attendance among young recent immigrants is not a result of differences in age structure but reflects different behaviour.

The proportion of adult recent immigrants attending school is highest among those who already have a post-secondary degree or diploma (not shown). Recent immigrants with foreign diplomas or degrees may be attending school full-time or part-time to obtain an equivalent Canadian diploma or degree, or to prepare for tests they need to pass to have their credentials recognised in Canada.

Table B.9: Persons attending school as a percentage of all persons in an age group, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996

	15-24	25-44	45-64
Women			
Canadian-born	73%	15%	6%
Immigrated before 1981	76%	16%	7%
Immigrated 1981-1990	76%	22%	12%
Immigrated 1991-1996	76%	39%	20%
Men			
Canadian-born	72%	14%	4%
Immigrated before 1981	74%	13%	3%
Immigrated 1981-1990	79%	22%	9%
Immigrated 1991-1996	81%	35%	20%



PART C: FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS

Family and household affiliation of individuals

Nine in ten recent immigrants live with relatives

Table C.1: Living arrangements, by age, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Canadian-born	Immigrated before 1981	Immigrated 1981-1990	Immigrated 1991-1996
All Ages (including 0-15)				
Living alone	10%	13%	7%	5%
Living with non-relatives only	5%	3%	5%	6%
Living with relatives	85%	84%	88%	89%
15-24				
Living alone	3%	5%	3%	3%
Living with non-relatives only	11%	16%	8%	10%
Living with relatives	86%	79%	89%	86%
25-44				
Living alone	11%	9%	8%	8%
Living with non-relatives only	9%	6%	6%	8%
Living with relatives	80%	84%	86%	84%
45-64				
Living alone	13%	10%	7%	4%
Living with non-relatives only	3%	2%	3%	3%
Living with relatives	83%	89%	90%	93%
65 and over				
Living alone	32%	24%	16%	7%
Living with non-relatives only	2%	2%	1%	1%
Living with relatives	66%	74%	83%	91%

Very few recent immigrants live alone. Like the Canadian born population, a large majority of recent immigrants live in households with at least two people, and in most cases, these are people with whom they are related by blood, marriage, or adoption. In fact, recent immigrants are more likely than the Canadian-born population to live with relatives. This is true for all age groups, but is most notable among people aged 65 and over. Among Canadian-born seniors in Ottawa, two-thirds (66%) live with relatives, while most of the other one-third (32%) live alone. By comparison, nine out of ten very recent immigrants aged 65 and over live with relatives (91%), while those living alone make up a much smaller share (7%) than among the Canadian-born.

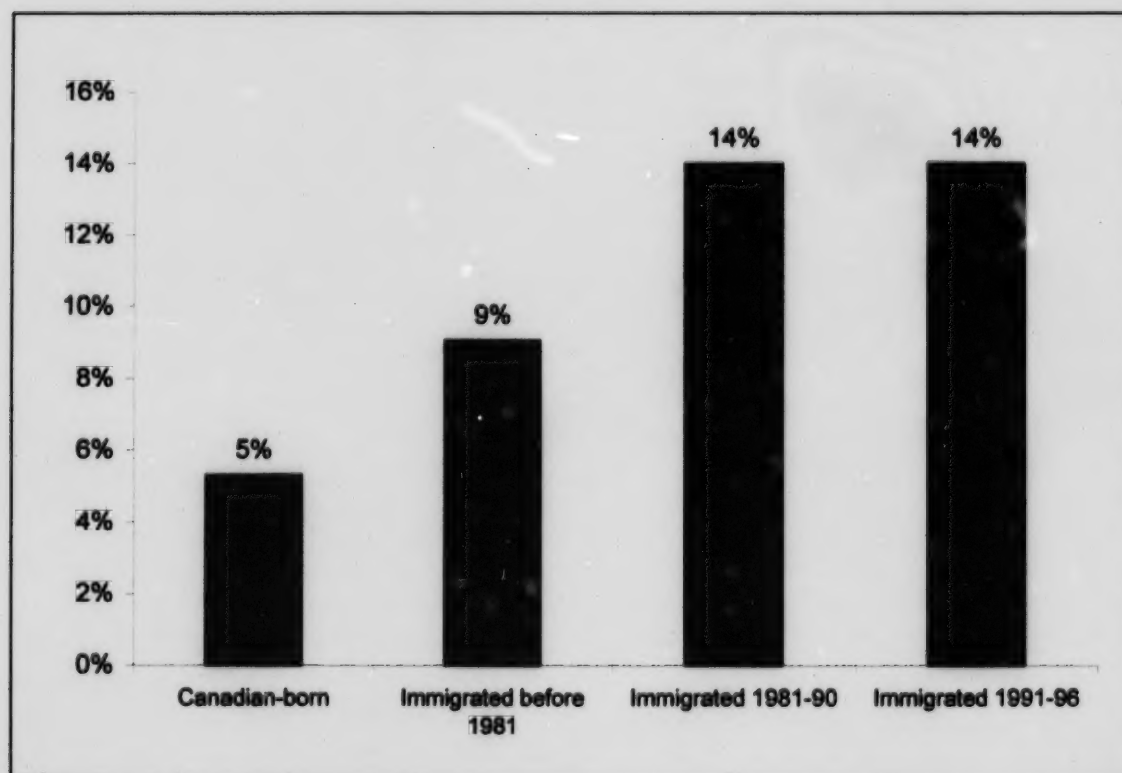
Recent immigrants more likely to live in extended families

Living arrangements refer to the composition of the household a person belongs to. Living arrangements can be simple, as in the case of the "nuclear family" household (defined as a lone parent living with never-married children, or a husband-wife family with or without never-married children living at home) or they can be more complex, and include other relatives such as aunts, uncles, grandparents, and so on. In this section, the latter situation is called an "extended family" arrangement. As an illustration, a couple with two never-married children would be considered a nuclear family. If the children's grandparents were living in the household, all members of the household would be living in an extended family arrangement.

Whereas Table C.1 includes all persons, Figure C.1 and Table C.2 include only persons who are living with relatives. A small percentage of individuals living with relatives are in "non-family" households. An example might be two adult brothers living together. The percentage of individuals in these situations is not shown in the table and figure in this section. Consequently, the percentages in Table C.2 do not add to 100%.

Recent immigrants are similar to Canadian-born individuals in that most live in nuclear families, with no relatives other than the immediate members of the nuclear family. But unlike the Canadian-born population, recent immigrants are also fairly likely to live in extended family situations. Of the Canadian-born population living with one or more relatives, only 5 per cent are part of an extended-family living arrangement. The proportion of recent immigrants in that kind of arrangement is almost three times as large, 14 per cent.

Figure C.1: Persons living in an extended family as a percentage of the population living with relatives, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996



Extended family living arrangements are most common among older recent immigrants. Four in ten (39%) of the most recent immigrants aged 65 and over live in extended families, compared with 8 per cent of Canadian-born seniors. Older recent immigrants living in extended families are most often related to someone within a nuclear family, and are not members of the nuclear family itself. This suggests that many of these seniors are recently immigrated parents who live with the family of their child who had come to Canada previously.

Table C.2: Persons living in nuclear and extended families as a percentage of the population living with relatives, by age group, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996

	Canadian-born	Immigrated before 1981	Immigrated 1981-1990	Immigrated 1991-1996
All ages				
% in nuclear family (no other relative)	93%	89%	84%	80%
% in extended families	5%	9%	14%	19%
Under 15				
% in nuclear family (no other relative)	94%	n.a.	92%	88%
% in extended families	5%	n.a.	8%	12%
15-24				
% in nuclear family (no other relative)	93%	85%	84%	75%
% in extended families	6%	12%	12%	17%
25-44				
% in nuclear family (no other relative)	93%	89%	84%	85%
% in extended families	5%	10%	13%	11%
45-64				
% in nuclear family (no other relative)	94%	91%	85%	83%
% in extended families	5%	8%	14%	15%
65 and over				
% in nuclear family (no other relative)	87%	86%	57%	58%
% in extended families	8%	12%	38%	39%

Families

24,200 recent immigrant families in Ottawa Metropolitan Area

Defining "Recent immigrant family"

Immigrant status is a characteristic of individuals. But in this section, focus shifts to an examination of the families in which recent immigrants reside. The term "recent immigrant family" refers to either a lone-parent family in which the parent is a recent immigrant, or a husband-wife family in which either (or both) spouses are recent immigrants.

The large majority of recent immigrants are members of recent immigrant families; some live alone or in non-family households. Most recently immigrated never-married children are also members of such families – the children having immigrated with their parents or parent – but some are members of earlier immigrant families (if parents immigrated before 1981 and the children followed later) or Canadian-born families (if the children were adopted, for instance).

Some recent immigrant families came to Canada as married couples, while others formed conjugal unions after arrival. Because the census only asks people to report marital status at the time of the census, it is not known if people married before or after coming to Canada. Similarly, it is not possible to determine whether recent immigrants became lone-parents before or after arrival in Canada.

Defining "Canadian-born family"

"Canadian-born families" are families in which the lone parent or both spouses were born in Canada.

Defining 'Age of family'

Age of family is determined by the age of the oldest member, i.e. the age of the lone parent or older of the spouses.

In Ottawa in 1996, there were 70,900 recent immigrants who arrived in Canada between 1981 and 1996. A large majority of these immigrants – 58,000 or 82 per cent – were members of a nuclear family. In other words, they were husbands, wives, common-law partners, lone parents, or never-married children. Almost all these recent immigrants lived in 24,200 recent immigrant families, i.e. families in which either or both spouses or the lone parent are recent immigrants. One in eight families in Ottawa (12%) are recent immigrant families (not shown in Table C.3).

Most of the recent immigrant families (82%) consist of married or common-law couples, while 18 per cent are lone-parent families. The proportion of families with couples is only slightly lower than among Canadian-born families. Sixteen per cent of Canadian-born families are lone parent families, and 84 per cent are married or common-law couples with or without children.

When families are grouped by the age of the oldest member, it appears that the proportion of lone-parent families increases marginally with age for recent immigrants. The proportion of lone parent families declines with age among Canadian-born families.

Table C.3: Family structure, by age of oldest spouse or lone parent, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Canadian-born families	Recent immigrant families
All families (including ages 15-24)		
couples with or without children	84%	82%
lone parents	16%	18%
total number	136,500	24,200
25-44		
couples with or without children	82%	83%
lone parents	18%	17%
total number	67,500	16,000
45-64		
couples with or without children	87%	81%
lone parents	13%	19%
total number	48,000	6,300
65 and over		
couples with or without children	89%	80%
lone parents	11%	20%
total number	18,300	1,600

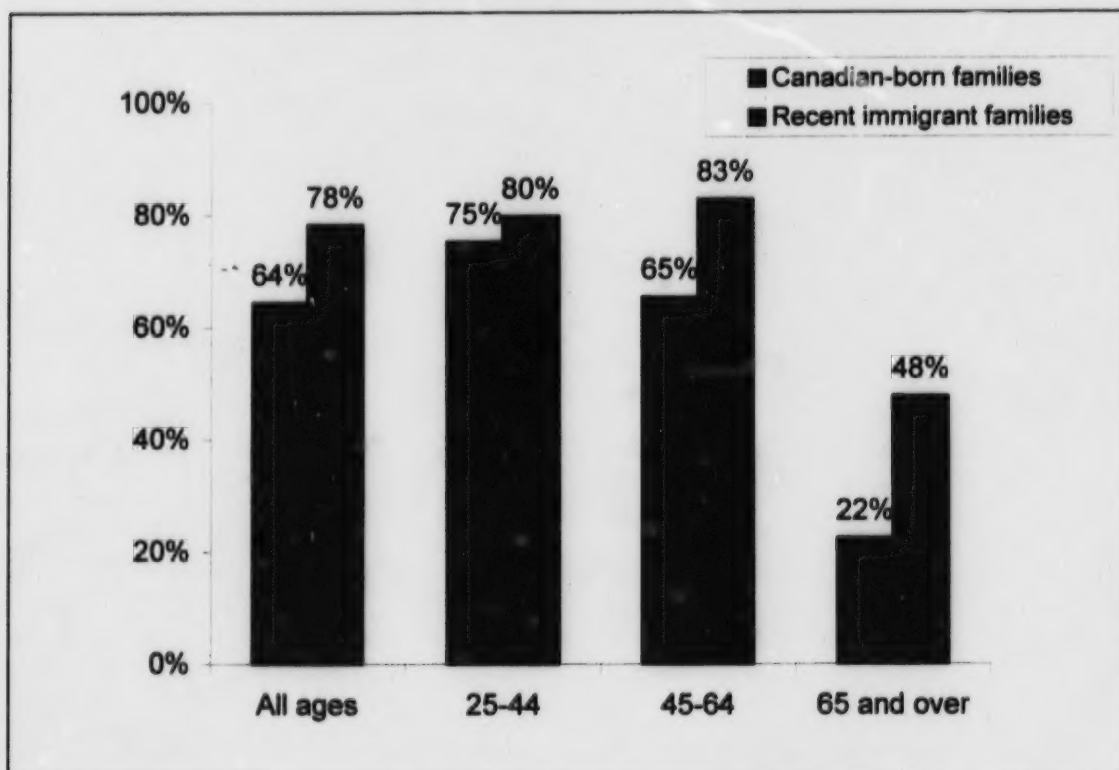
Recent immigrant families more likely to have children in the home

A striking difference between recent immigrant and Canadian-born families is in the proportion of families with never-married children at home. Three out of four recent immigrant families (78%) have at least one never-married child of any age living at home. By comparison, less than two out of three Canadian-born families (64%) have children at home.

This difference is greater among older than younger families, when age of family is defined as the age of the oldest member of the family. Among young families, 80 per cent of recent-immigrant families have children at home, compared to 75 per cent of Canadian-born families. One-half of recent-immigrant families of seniors (48%) have children in the home, compared to only two in ten Canadian-born families (22%).

The higher proportion of older recent immigrant families with children living at home could be due to a number of factors, including a greater likelihood that older children will stay longer in the parental home, as well as possible differences in the timing of childbirth and level of fertility. Some of the children in older immigrant families may be adults living with and possibly supporting one or two ageing parents.

Figure C.2: Families with never-married children living at home, as a percentage of all families, by age of family, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996



Older recent immigrant families have more children living at home

Whereas Table C.3 and Figure C.2 give information about all families, Table C.4 describes families with children only. Figure C.2 gives the number of families with children living at home as a percentage of all families, and Table C.4 subdivides families with children by the number of children. Thus, the percentages shown in Table C.4 add to 100, except for small discrepancies due to rounding.

Recent immigrant families with children are more likely to have more than two children in the home than Canadian-born families with children. One in four recent immigrant families with children have three or more children (25%), compared to one in six of Canadian-born families (16%).

This difference occurs across age groups when families are grouped by the age of the oldest member, but is more pronounced for older families. Among young families, 19 per cent of Canadian-born families and 24 per cent of recent immigrant families have three or more children. However, three in ten recent immigrant families whose older spouse or lone parent is 45 to 64 years old have more than two children (29%), twice the proportion of Canadian-born families (14%). And among the oldest recent immigrant families, 13 per cent has three or more children living at home, compared to only 2 per cent of Canadian-born families.

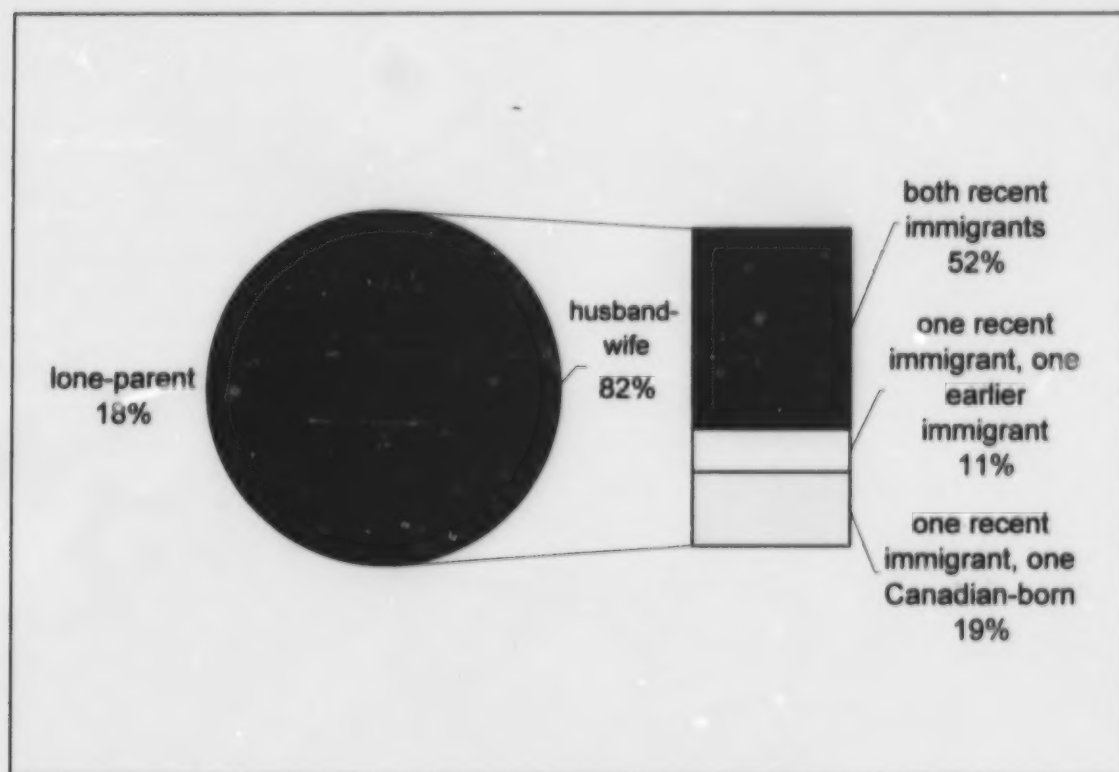
Table C.4: Families with never-married children living at home, by number of children and age of family, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Canadian-born families	Recent immigrant families
All ages (including ages 15-24)		
One child	43%	37%
Two children	42%	38%
Three or more children	16%	25%
25-44		
One child	35%	36%
Two children	47%	39%
Three or more children	19%	24%
45-64		
One child	47%	33%
Two children	39%	38%
Three or more children	14%	29%
65 and over		
One child	87%	64%
Two children	11%	23%
Three or more children	2%	13%

Majority of recent immigrants married to other recent immigrants

One-half of the 24,200 recent immigrant families (52%) are comprised of a recently immigrated husband married to or living common-law with a recently immigrated wife, with or without children. An additional 11 per cent of families have a recently immigrated spouse and a spouse who immigrated earlier, before 1981. A larger share of families (19%) has a recent immigrant paired with a Canadian-born spouse.

Figure C.3: Recent immigrant families by type, showing immigrant status of spouses, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996



Of the families of immigrants who landed before 1981, almost one in two consists of an immigrant paired with a Canadian-born spouse (46%, not shown). This proportion is more than twice as large as that of recent immigrants.

When recent immigrants enter into conjugal unions, they are very likely to do so as a legally married couple. Just 7 per cent of recent-immigrant couples live common-law, compared with 13 per cent of Canadian-born couples. Even among younger couples, where common-law is the clear preference of the Canadian born, relatively few recent immigrant couples have chosen this option.

The low incidence of common-law relationships is in part a result of immigration laws, which do not recognise common-law relationships. Common-law partners have to be admitted separately as individuals, whereas a marital couple may enter as a unit. Differences in attitudes towards common-law relationships may also play a role.

Table C.5: Couples in common-law relationships as a proportion of all husband-wife couples, by age of older partner, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996

	Canadian-born families	Recent immigrant families
All ages	13%	7%
15-24	69%	40%
25-44	18%	7%
45-64	9%	5%
65 and over	2%	2%

Households

32,000 recent immigrant households in Ottawa Metropolitan Area

Defining "Recent immigrant household"

A household is a group of persons sharing living accommodation. In a recent immigrant household, one or more of the members aged 15 years or over is a recent immigrant, having immigrated to Canada between 1981 and 1996. All recent immigrants of 15 years or over are members of recent immigrant households.

Recent immigrant households are subdivided by period of landing in the same way as individuals. A household with one or more persons over 15 years of age who immigrated during 1991-1996 is a 1990s immigrant household. If all persons of 15 and over immigrated during 1991-1996, the household is called a "1990s immigrants only" household. If there are members of 15 and over who belong to other groups, the household is called "1990s immigrants with others". The "others" are immigrants who landed before 1991 or Canadian-born persons or both. A 1980s immigrant household includes at least one person who immigrated during the 1980s, and no persons who immigrated during 1991-1996.

Defining "Canadian-born household"

A Canadian-born household is a household in which all members aged 15 years or over were born in Canada.

Defining "Earlier immigrant household"

An earlier immigrant household includes one or more persons who immigrated in or before 1980 and does not include any persons who immigrated after 1980.

Together, these three groups include all households, as households consisting entirely of non-permanent residents are not considered here. The recent immigrant family concept is the most encompassing of the three, and the Canadian-born household the narrowest. Many earlier immigrant households (more than half of such households in Ottawa) include Canadian-born persons, including children born in Canada who have passed the age of 14.

Table C.6: Households by immigrant status of members of 15 years and over, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996

	Number of households	Share of all households
Canadian-born households	205,700	71%
Earlier immigrant households	51,500	18%
Recent immigrant households	31,900	11%
of which:		
1980s immigrants	16,400	5.7%
1990s immigrants with others	6,300	2.2%
with Canadian-born	2,000	0.7%
with other immigrants	3,900	1.3%
with Canadian-born and other immigrants	420	0.1%
1990s immigrants only	9,300	3.2%
Total	289,200	100%

In Ottawa in 1996, there were 31,900 recent-immigrant households - households in which at least one member of 15 years or older was a recent immigrant. These made up 11 per cent of the total number of households in Ottawa.

One-half of recent immigrant households (15,600) have at least one member who immigrated during the 1990s. In six out of ten of these households (9,300) all members are very recent immigrants. But it is also quite common for very recent immigrants to live together with immigrants who landed before 1991, with Canadian-born persons, or with both (6,300 households).

Seven in ten households in Ottawa (71%) comprise only Canadian-born persons. The remaining 18 per cent of all households include one or more earlier immigrants but no recent immigrants. More than one-half of these earlier immigrant households also include persons born in Canada, often children born after immigration.

Recent immigrant households more likely to be larger than a nuclear family

The majority of households consist of families. Families may live alone (nuclear family households), with other families (multiple family households), or with non-family persons which may or may not be relatives (expanded-family households). All other households are non-family households consisting of one or more persons who may be related by blood or not.

A recent immigrant household is much more likely than a Canadian-born household to consist of one or more families. Four in five recent immigrant households (78%) are family households, compared to two in three Canadian-born households (65%).

One in three Canadian-born households is a non-family household, and most of these consist of a person living alone (28% of households). Among recent immigrant households persons, living alone are half as common (13%).

Most households consist of a nuclear family, i.e. a couple with or without children, or a lone parent with one or more children living together. Immigrant households, except for households of very recent immigrants with others are slightly more likely to consist of just a nuclear family than Canadian-born households.

One in ten recent immigrant households consists of a nuclear family living with other persons (11%). In most of these "expanded-family" households the non-family person or persons are related to the family. Expanded-family households are not unknown among Canadian-born, but they occur less frequently.

Households of recent immigrants are also more likely than Canadian-born households to consist of two or more families. These families may be related to each other, as for example a married couple living with the family of one of their children. Multiple family households are most common among households combining very recent immigrants with other Canadians (12%). On the other hand, households of earlier immigrants and Canadian-born persons are not likely to consist of two or more families. Evidently, a number of new immigrants live in households that are different from the standard nuclear family.

Table C.7: Household structure, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

Households	Family households				Non-family households		Number of households
	All family households	Nuclear families	Expanded families	Multiple families	Single person	Multiple persons	
Canadian-born	65%	60%	4%	1%	28%	7%	205,700
Earlier immigrants	77%	69%	6%	1%	19%	4%	51,500
Recent immigrants	78%	63%	11%	4%	13%	9%	31,900
1980s immigrants	78%	66%	10%	2%	15%	7%	16,400
1990s immigrants with others	88%	56%	20%	12%	0%	12%	6,300
1990s immigrants only	71%	62%	8%	2%	20%	9%	9,300
All households	68%	62%	5%	1%	25%	7%	289,200

Recent immigrant households tend to be large

Table C.8: Size of households, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

Households	Number of persons in household			Estimated size
	1 to 3	4 or 5	6 or more	
Canadian-born	77%	22%	2%	2.5
Earlier immigrants	71%	26%	3%	2.8
Recent immigrants	58%	32%	10%	3.4
1980s immigrants	57%	36%	7%	3.3
1990s immigrants with others	55%	30%	15%	3.7
1990s immigrants only	63%	27%	10%	3.2
All households	74%	24%	3%	2.6

Size is estimated assuming an average of 4.5 for households with 4 or 5 members and 7 for households with 6 or more members. For sizes 1 to 3 the actual number of households with each size was used in the calculation.

Recent immigrant households are more likely to be large in size than Canadian-born and earlier immigrant households. Six in ten recent immigrant households (58%) have one to three members, compared to three out of four Canadian-born households (77%). Thus, the proportion of households with four or more members is almost twice as large (42%) among recent immigrant households as among Canadian-born households (24%).

Most of the larger recent immigrant households have four or five members. Households where very recent immigrants live together with other Canadians are most likely of all households to be very large. Fifteen per cent of such households have six or more members. The share of very large households among Canadian-born households is only 2 per cent.

More care of children, less care of elders

Table C.9: Proportion of persons spending time on unpaid care of children and elders, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996

	Care of	
	children	elders
Women		
Canadian-born	39%	19%
Immigrated before 1981	38%	19%
Immigrated 1981-1990	55%	15%
Immigrated 1991-1996	53%	11%
Men		
Canadian-born	33%	14%
Immigrated before 1981	35%	14%
Immigrated 1981-1990	43%	12%
Immigrated 1991-1996	39%	10%

The proportion of recent immigrants of 15 years or over reporting time spent on unpaid care of children is higher than the proportion of Canadian-born persons. On the other hand, the share of recent immigrants spending time on a regular basis to look after elder persons is lower than the share of Canadian-born persons.

These numbers reflect differences in family and household structure. Families with children are more numerous among recent immigrants. The incidence of care of elders is lower among recent immigrants, even though extended families are more common. This suggests that recent immigrants have other reasons than care of elders for living in households larger than a nuclear family.

PART D: PARTICIPATION IN THE ECONOMY

Participation in the labour market

Labour force participation lower but increasing with length of stay

A person is in the labour force if he or she is employed or actively looking for work. Persons not in the labour force may be attending school, raising children, in retirement, or they may be unable or unwilling to seek employment for other reasons.

The rate of labour force participation varies by age and gender. Thus, differences in labour force participation between immigrants and the Canadian-born may be a result of differences in age-gender composition. As well, immigrants and the Canadian-born may show similar behaviour in some age-gender groups, and different behaviour in other groups. For both these reasons it is of interest to examine labour force participation by age and gender.

Table D.1: Labour force participation rates of persons aged 15 to 64 by age and gender, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996

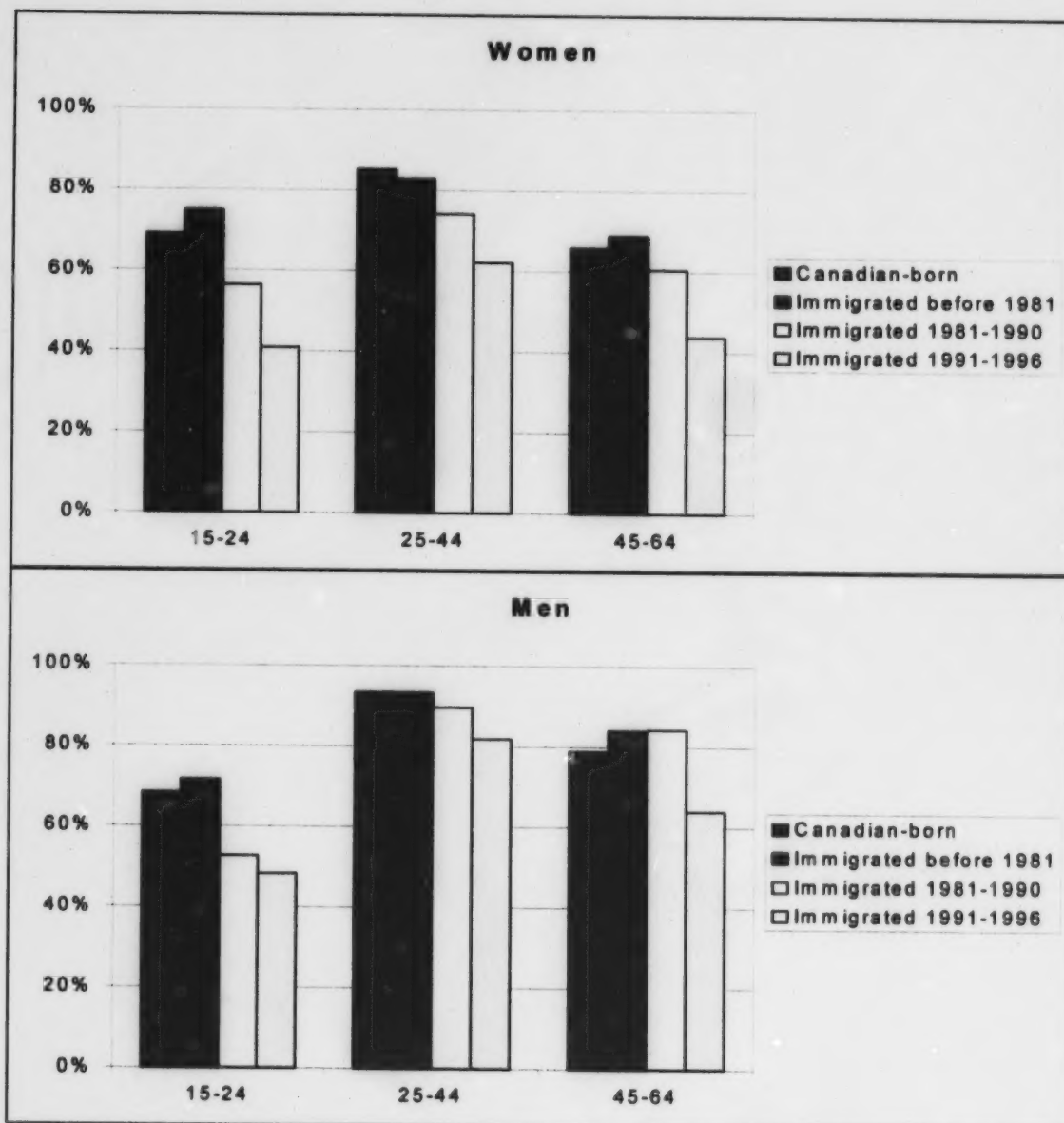
	15-24	25-44	45-64	15-64	Labour Force
Women					
Canadian-born	69%	85%	66%	76%	155,600
Immigrated before 1981	75%	83%	69%	74%	22,200
Immigrated 1981-1990	56%	74%	60%	68%	10,500
Immigrated 1991-1996	41%	62%	44%	55%	7,600
Men					
Canadian-born	68%	93%	79%	84%	167,800
Immigrated before 1981	72%	93%	84%	87%	25,500
Immigrated 1981-1990	53%	90%	84%	81%	12,000
Immigrated 1991-1996	48%	82%	64%	71%	8,800

In the first few years after landing, immigrants participate in the labour market at lower rates than the Canadian-born, but over time the rates become quite similar. This pattern is evident in all three age groups, for both men and women.

The differences in labour force participation rates between the most recent immigrants and the Canadian-born are between 11 and 28 per cent depending on the age group, and the differences are smaller for men than for women. Men aged 45 to 64 who immigrated between 5 and 15 years prior to 1996 participate at a higher rate (84%) than the Canadian-born (79%), evidence of rapid adjustment, a higher level of education, and possibly of later retirement from the workforce.

The labour force participation rates of immigrants converge to those of the Canadian-born over time. Young and older men and women who immigrated before 1981 are more active in the labour market than the Canadian-born of the same age.

Figure D.1: Labour force participation rates by age and gender, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996



Pattern of adjustment similar for almost all levels of education

Just as labour force participation varies by age and gender, so it also varies by level of education. To better understand the reasons for differences between immigrants and the Canadian-born, participation rates are shown for different levels of education. Level of education is as reported by respondents, and pertains to the time of the census.

Table D.2: Labour force participation rates of persons 15 to 64 years old, by level of education and gender, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996

	Less than grade 9	Some high school	High school diploma	College or trade diploma	University degree	Total
Women						
Canadian-born	29%	53%	79%	83%	89%	76%
Immigrated before 1981	43%	58%	72%	79%	85%	74%
Immigrated 1981-1990	34%	47%	64%	81%	84%	68%
Immigrated 1991-1996	31%	36%	49%	69%	70%	55%
Men						
Canadian-born	50%	64%	87%	91%	93%	84%
Immigrated before 1981	65%	79%	87%	88%	92%	87%
Immigrated 1981-1990	74%	53%	79%	90%	92%	81%
Immigrated 1991-1996	61%	44%	66%	82%	85%	71%

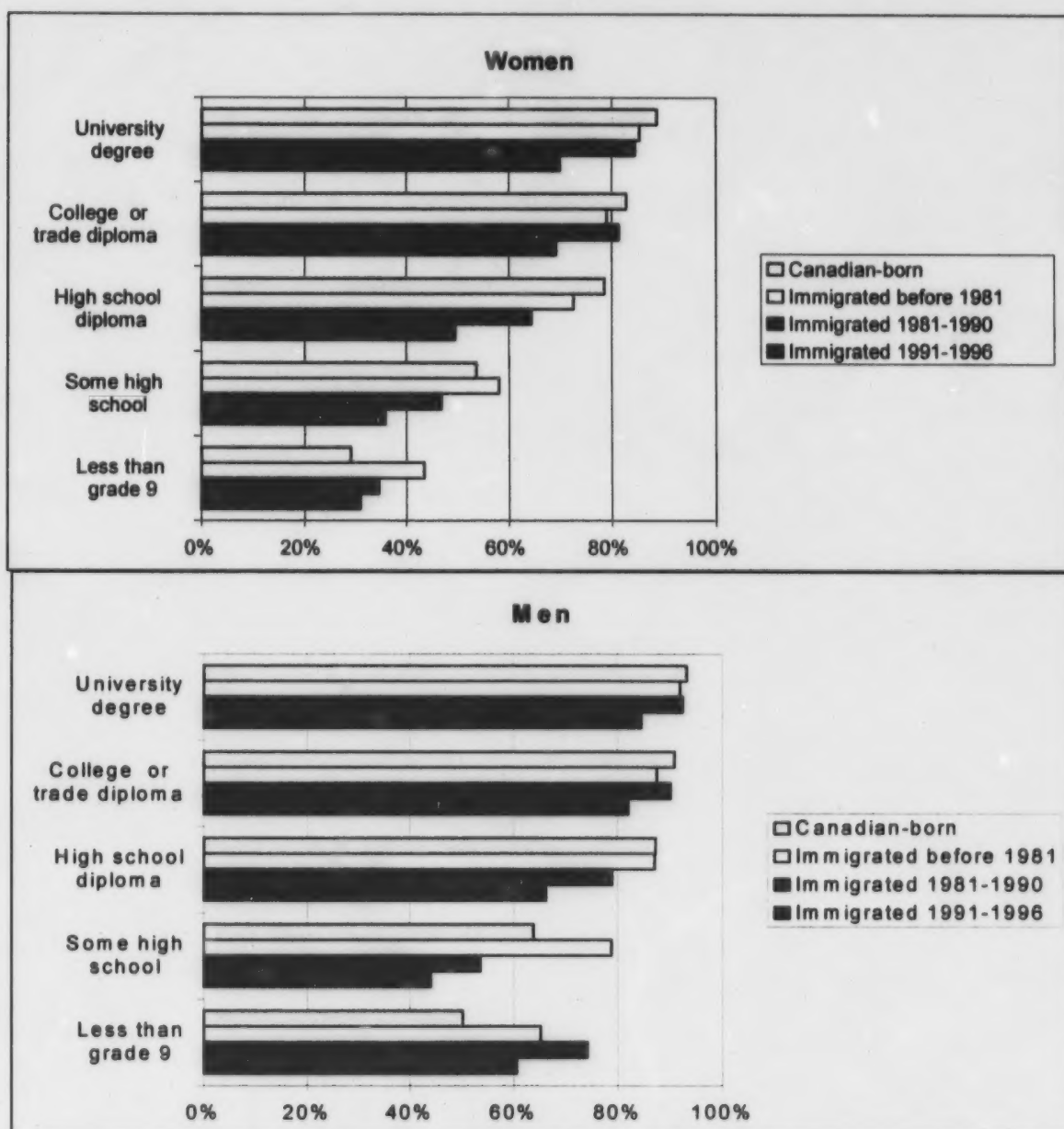
Generally speaking, if persons are ranked by level of education, the higher the level of education the greater the proportion of people who participate in the labour market. This observation holds for the Canadian-born as well as for all three groups of immigrants, with one exception. Among recently immigrated men with only elementary schooling a high proportion is employed or looking for work.

Except for men and women with only elementary education, recent immigrants participate in the labour market at a lower rate than the Canadian-born with the same education. For instance, women who immigrated in the 1980s and have a high school diploma but no post-secondary diploma or degree have a participation rate of 64 per cent, whereas their Canadian-born counterparts have a rate of 79 per cent.

Over time, the behaviour of immigrants converges to that of Canadian-born persons. Immigrants who have been in the country for more than five years participate in the labour market in higher proportions than those who landed more recently.

For recent and earlier immigrants with elementary schooling a different pattern is evident. They participate in the labour market at a higher rate than the Canadian-born with the same education. This also applies to earlier immigrants who have attended but not completed high school.

Figure D.2: Labour force participation rates of persons 15 to 64 years old, by level of education and gender, Ottawa Metropolitan Area 1996



Knowledge of English important for labour force participation

Table D.3: Labour force participation and knowledge of French or English of persons 15 to 64 years old, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996

	Population share without knowledge of either French or English	Labour force participation rate		
		No knowledge of either French or English	Knowledge of French, English or both	Total, ages 15 - 64 ^{***}
Women				
Canadian-born	n.a.	n.a.	76%	76%
Immigrated before 1981	1%	25%	75%	74%
Immigrated 1981 - 1990	5%	29%	70%	68%
Immigrated 1991 - 1996	9%	35%	57%	55%
Men				
Canadian-born	n.a.	n.a.	84%	84%
Immigrated before 1981	1%	47%	87%	87%
Immigrated 1981 - 1990	3%	68%	82%	81%
Immigrated 1991 - 1996	6%	55%	72%	71%

Most immigrants can converse in English, French or both when they immigrate to Canada. As reported at the time of the 1996 census, the large majority of both men and women who immigrated during the 1990s and settled in Ottawa speak one or both official languages. Those that do not do so are not nearly as active in the labour market as those who do. It is hardly surprising that knowledge of English and French is strongly associated with labour market behaviour. The effect – measured by the difference between the second and third column in the table – is larger for earlier than for recent immigrants, and, among recent immigrants, it is much stronger for women than for men.

Labour force participation rates of immigrants are lower than they would be if all immigrants had command of English or French – as measured by the difference between the third and fourth column in the table. For the most recent immigrants, lack of English and French reduces the labour force participation rate by 2 per cent in the case of women (55% compared to 57%) and by 1 per cent for men (71% compared to 72%). Thus, lack of knowledge of official languages accounts for a small but definite part of the difference between the most recent immigrants and the Canadian-born.

Most immigrants who do not speak either English or French at the time of immigration learn a language after arrival. Thus, lack of knowledge of official languages becomes less important as a barrier to labour force entry with prolonged stay in Canada. It remains a very high hurdle, but it affects fewer people.

Many factors may contribute to differences in labour force participation, and readers should not attribute differences only to the factor examined in any of the tables or charts. For instance, if many immigrants who do not speak English or French also have a below-average education, low labour force participation may be a result of low education rather than lack of English or French. To give another example, if lack of knowledge of English is highly associated with relatively high age (as may be the case with persons who immigrate after age 50 from non-English-speaking countries), then it may have only a small effect on labour force participation, because a number of these persons would not enter the labour market even if they did speak English. However, the table conveys an impression that is supported by further analysis. When education, age and gender, and knowledge of English were considered jointly, it was found that lack of knowledge of English has a clear, separate effect on participation rates that is close to the effect shown in the table.

Unemployment not uncommon during initial years

Like labour force participation, unemployment varies by age and gender, and also by level of education. Knowledge of English also has some effect. In this section, each of these aspects is examined in turn as the unemployment experience of immigrants and persons born in Canada is compared. Readers are reminded that differences in unemployment between groups may be related to a number of factors, and not only the one shown in a particular table.

Table D.4: Unemployment rates of persons aged 15 to 64 by age and gender, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996

	15-24	25-44	45-64	15-64	Unemployed
Women					
Canadian-born	15%	6%	4%	7%	11,400
Immigrated before 1981	13%	7%	6%	6%	1,400
Immigrated 1981-1990	20%	15%	12%	15%	1,600
Immigrated 1991-1996	42%	25%	28%	28%	2,100
Men					
Canadian-born	18%	6%	5%	8%	13,200
Immigrated before 1981	20%	6%	6%	6%	1,600
Immigrated 1981-1990	24%	12%	17%	15%	1,800
Immigrated 1991-1996	33%	19%	25%	22%	1,900

Immigrants are much more likely to experience unemployment during their initial years in Canada than those who have been in the country for a longer period of time. For instance, males who landed in the 1990s and are living in Ottawa experience unemployment rates from 19 to 33 per cent, depending on their age group, and females experience rates of 25 to 42 per cent. These are very high rates of unemployment. Unemployment is much lower among persons who immigrated during the 1980s.

This indicates that many very recent immigrants have had considerable difficulty finding employment.

Table D.5: Unemployment rates by level of education, ages 15 to 64, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996

	Less than grade 9	Some high school	High school diploma	College or trade diploma	University degree	Total
Women						
Canadian-born	12%	14%	8%	6%	5%	7%
Immigrated before 1981	10%	7%	8%	8%	3%	6%
Immigrated 1981-1990	22%	21%	19%	15%	10%	15%
Immigrated 1991-1996	47%	38%	30%	26%	22%	28%
Men						
Canadian-born	14%	15%	10%	6%	3%	8%
Immigrated before 1981	12%	13%	10%	6%	3%	6%
Immigrated 1981-1990	16%	21%	19%	14%	11%	15%
Immigrated 1991-1996	27%	25%	27%	25%	17%	22%

The adjustment pattern just examined occurs at all levels of education. For instance, men who immigrated during the 1990s and who have a college or trade diploma have an unemployment rate of 25 per cent. The rate drops to 14 per cent for immigrants who landed during the 1980s. Earlier immigrants are approximately as likely as the Canadian-born to be unemployed.

Among very recently immigrated men, the unemployment rate is as high for the better educated, except persons with a university degree, as for the less educated. After the adjustment period, however, better educated immigrants experience less unemployment than those with less education. This suggests that it takes time for better educated immigrants to find steady employment at a level that corresponds to their level of education.

Table D.6: Unemployment and knowledge of English and French, persons aged 15 to 64 years, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996

		Unemployment rate		
	Population Share without knowledge of either French or English	No knowledge of either French or English	Knowledge of French, English or both	Total, Ages 15 - 64
Women				
Canadian-born	n.a.	n.a.	7%	7%
Immigrated before 1981	1%	17%	6%	6%
Immigrated 1981-1990	5%	27%	15%	15%
Immigrated 1991-1996	9%	31%	28%	28%
Men				
Canadian-born	n.a.	n.a.	8%	8%
Immigrated before 1981	1%	32%	6%	6%
Immigrated 1981-1990	3%	21%	15%	15%
Immigrated 1991-1996	6%	23%	22%	22%

Recently immigrated men who do not speak English or French are more likely to be unemployed than those that do. The difference in unemployment rates between those who speak one or both official languages and those who do not is larger for those who have been in the country for a longer period of time.

Lack of knowledge of English or French has but a small effect on the overall unemployment rate of immigrants, smaller than one per cent. The effect is small because the proportion of immigrants who do not speak English or French is not very large, and their unemployment rate is higher by a modest margin.

Share of men and women with jobs increases with length of stay

Table D.7: Employment ratio of persons aged 15 to 64 by age and gender, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996

	15-24	25-44	45-64	15-64	Employed
Women					
Canadian-born	58%	80%	63%	71%	144,200
Immigrated before 1981	65%	77%	65%	69%	20,800
Immigrated 1981-1990	45%	63%	53%	58%	8,800
Immigrated 1991-1996	24%	47%	31%	39%	5,500
Men					
Canadian-born	56%	87%	75%	77%	154,600
Immigrated before 1981	58%	88%	79%	81%	23,900
Immigrated 1981-1990	40%	79%	70%	69%	10,300
Immigrated 1991-1996	32%	67%	48%	56%	6,900

Four in ten women of working age who immigrated during 1991 to 1996 (39%) are employed, and between five and six out of ten men (56%). For immigrants who landed during the 1980s the proportions are 58 per cent for women and 69 per cent for men. As shown in the previous pages, these increases in employment ratios reflect changes in labour force participation as well as unemployment.

For earlier immigrants the ratios are even higher than for recent immigrants. After prolonged stay in Canada, male immigrants attain a somewhat higher employment ratio than the Canadian-born, and female immigrants reach about the same level as the Canadian-born. Thus, there appears to be a complete adjustment of immigrants in the labour market after a stay of 15 years.

The jobs of recent immigrants

Part-time jobs more common for very recent immigrants aged 25 to 64

Part-time employment is defined as having worked less than 30 hours per week during most of the weeks worked in the year 1995. Because the information relates to the entire year 1995, only persons who landed before 1995 are included among the most recent immigrants.

The share of part-time employment for the 15-64 age group is the average of the shares for the three age groups, weighted by the relative size of each age group. Because the age-specific rates vary so much, differences in age structure can have a major effect on the overall rate. The fact that immigrants who arrived before the 1980s are concentrated in the higher age groups gives them a low share of part-time employment compared to other groups. When the comparison is made for each age group, it becomes clear that these earlier immigrants are not very different from other groups with respect to the rate of part-time employment.

Table D.8: Part-time employment as a share of employment, by age and gender, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1995

	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	15-64
Women				
Canadian-born	64%	21%	23%	29%
Immigrated before 1981	59%	23%	25%	26%
Immigrated 1981-1990	69%	29%	24%	34%
Immigrated 1991-1994	59%	32%	39%	37%
Men				
Canadian-born	57%	8%	8%	17%
Immigrated before 1981	59%	9%	7%	9%
Immigrated 1981-1990	57%	15%	13%	20%
Immigrated 1991-1994	52%	21%	21%	26%

The proportion of employed persons who work part-time varies considerably by age and gender. Half or more of employed young adults work part-time, mainly because many also attend school. Two to three out of ten employed women aged 25 to 64, not including the most recent immigrants, work part-time, while for men of the same age who were born in Canada or immigrated before the 1980s the share is 7 to 9 per cent.

Among recent immigrants between the ages of 25 and 64, part-time employment is more common than among the Canadian-born. The incidence of part-time employment is higher for those who immigrated during the 1990s than for those who immigrated a decade earlier. This suggests that part-time employment is a way for new immigrants to enter the work force. Younger most recent immigrants are more or less as likely to have a part-time job as their Canadian-born counterparts.

Many employed recent immigrants in sale and services, health and science occupations

Occupations are subdivided into six broad groups based on the 1991 Standard Occupational Classification, as follows:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| (1) Sales and services | Sales and service occupations |
| (2) Processing | Occupations unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities
Occupations unique to primary industry |
| (3) Administrative | Business, finance and administrative occupations |
| (4) Management and social | Occupations in social science, education, government services and religion
Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport
Management occupations |
| (5) Trades, transport | Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations |
| (6) Health, science | Health occupations
Natural and applied sciences and related occupations |

In examining the jobs of immigrants, the focus is on persons 25 to 64 years old. Younger people are not considered since many of them are still in school, and their jobs tend to be short-term and part-time and are less likely to be related to their education and career choices than the jobs of older adults.

Table D.9: Occupations of employed women and men aged 25 to 64, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

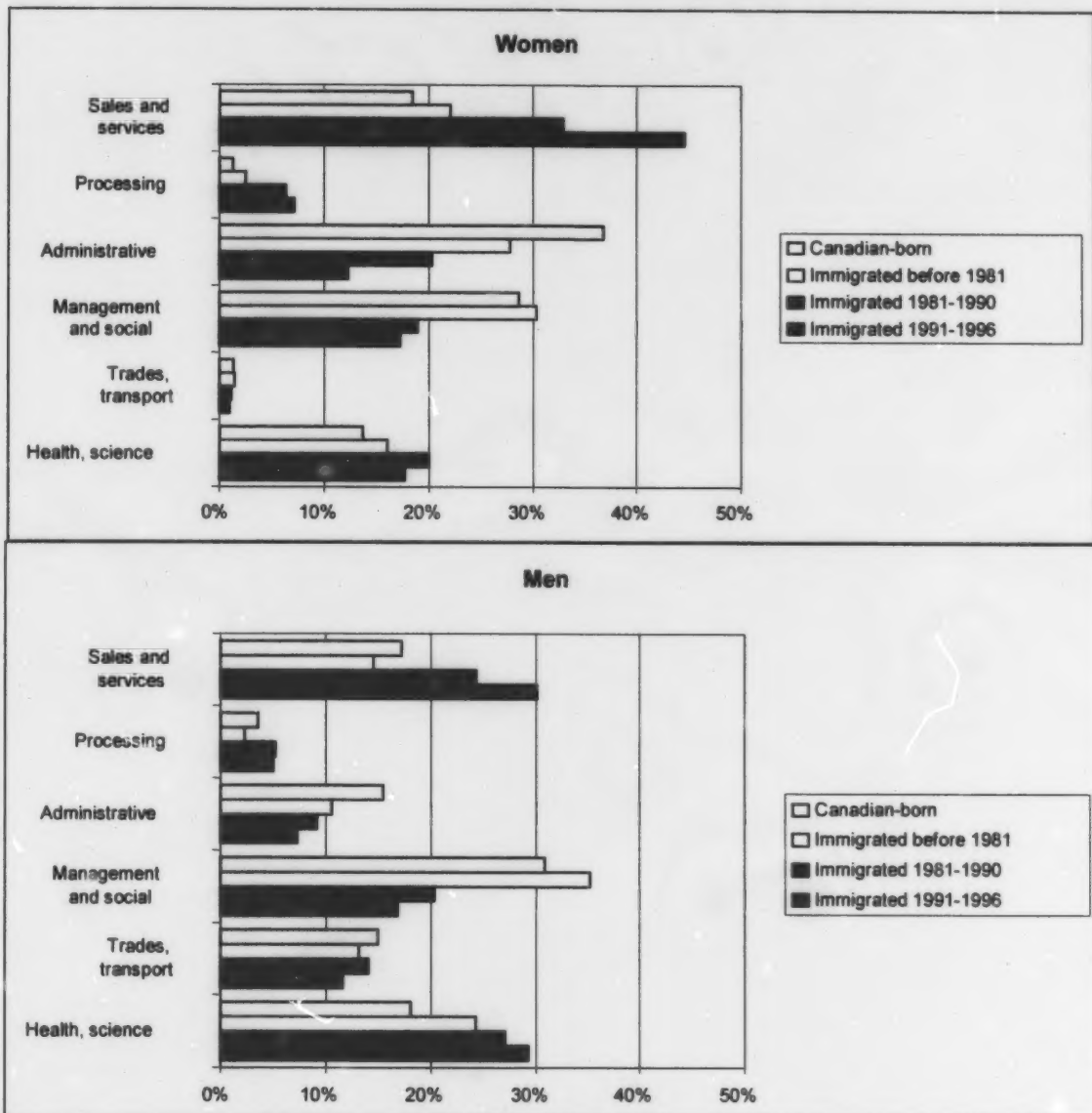
	Sales and services	Processing	Administrative	Management and social	Trades, transport	Health, science	Total employed
Women							
Canadian-born	18%	1%	37%	29%	1%	14%	119,700
Immigrated before 1981	22%	3%	28%	30%	1%	16%	20,000
Immigrated 1981-1990	33%	6%	20%	19%	1%	20%	7,600
Immigrated 1991-1996	45%	7%	12%	17%	1%	18%	4,800
Men							
Canadian-born	17%	4%	15%	31%	15%	18%	130,800
Immigrated before 1981	15%	2%	11%	35%	13%	24%	23,200
Immigrated 1981-1990	24%	5%	9%	20%	14%	27%	9,100
Immigrated 1991-1996	30%	5%	7%	17%	12%	29%	5,900

Employed recent immigrants are more likely than their Canadian-born counterparts to work in sales and services jobs, particularly so if they immigrated during the 1990s. Somewhat less than one-half of women (45%) and one-third of men (30%) who immigrated during 1991 to 1996 and are employed work in sales and service jobs, compared to less than two in ten Canadian-born women and men (18% of women and 17% of men). The jobs of recent immigrants are also more likely to be in health and science and, for women, in processing occupations.

By contrast, administrative and management and social occupations, which attract the Canadian-born in large proportions, account for a smaller share of the jobs of recent immigrants.

There are probably many factors that contribute to these patterns, including the selection of immigrants and their level and field of education. But the choice of occupation by immigrants also reflects adjustment to the economy and barriers to entry into professions and trades. Many new immigrants probably find it easier to obtain employment in sales and services jobs than in other occupations.

Figure D.3: Occupations of employed women and men aged 25 to 64, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)



Many employed recent immigrants hospitality and other services

Industries are subdivided into six broad groups based on the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification, as follows:

Manufacturing	Primary industries and manufacturing
Construction & Transportation	Construction, transportation and storage, and communications
Trade	Wholesale and retail trade
Business services	Finance, insurance, real estate operators and insurance, and business services
Public sector	Government services, education and health services
Hospitality and other services	Accommodation, food and beverage industries, and other services

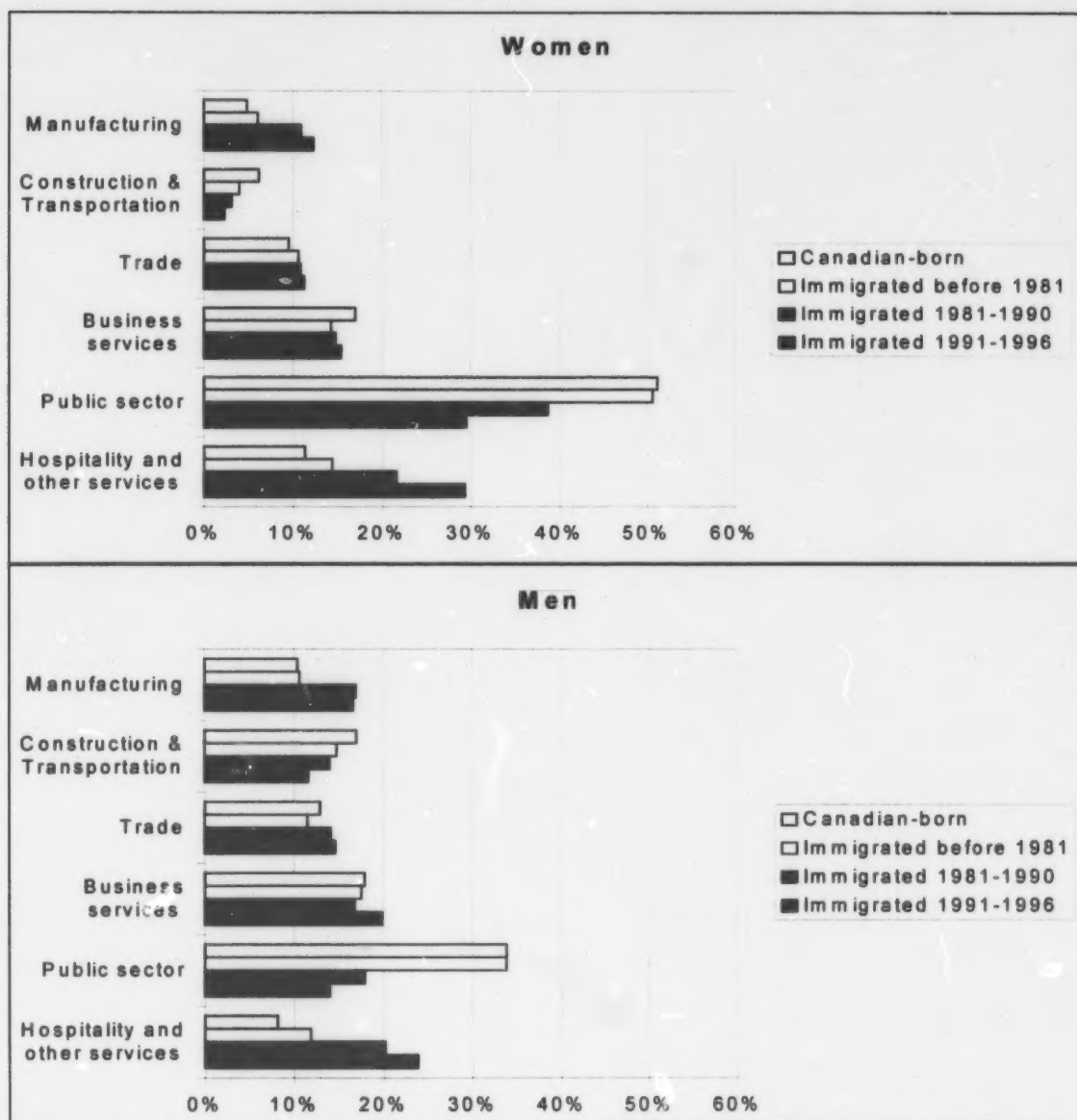
In the greater Ottawa area, a larger proportion of the jobs recent immigrants aged 25 to 64 than of the Canadian-born are in hospitality and other services, and also in manufacturing. By contrast, the public sector and construction and transportation account for a lower share of the jobs of recent immigrants than the Canadian-born. The industrial distribution of employment of earlier immigrants is very similar to that of the Canadian-born.

Table D.10: Employment by industry, persons aged 25 to 64, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Manufacturing	Construction & Transportation	Trade	Business services	Public sector	Hospitality and other services
Women						
Canadian-born	5%	6%	10%	17%	51%	11%
Immigrated before 1981	6%	4%	11%	14%	51%	14%
Immigrated 1981-1990	11%	3%	11%	15%	39%	22%
Immigrated 1991-1996	12%	2%	11%	15%	30%	29%
Men						
Canadian-born	10%	17%	13%	18%	34%	8%
Immigrated before 1981	11%	15%	11%	17%	34%	12%
Immigrated 1981-1990	17%	14%	14%	17%	18%	20%
Immigrated 1991-1996	17%	12%	15%	20%	14%	24%

The jobs of young Canadian-born people in the Ottawa area - who, like recent immigrants, are recent entrants into the labour market - are more concentrated in the trade sector and in hospitality and other services than those of recent immigrants aged 25 to 64 years. Each of these two industry groups provides about 30 per cent of the jobs of Canadian-born aged 15 to 24 (not shown). By contrast, manufacturing, business services and the public sector each account for a larger share of employment for recent immigrants than for young Canadian-born. Thus, with regard to the distribution of jobs by industries, recent immigrants aged 25 to 64 years occupy a middle position between Canadian-born of the same age and younger Canadian-born in hospitality and other services. The jobs of young Canadian-born persons tend to be in the trade sector as well.

Figure D.4: Employment by industry, persons aged 25 to 64, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)



Skill requirements of jobs of recent immigrants lower

The tables and charts in this and the next section show the shares of jobs grouped by four levels of skill, level 4 being the highest and level 1 the lowest, as follows:

Level 1: Short work demonstration; no formal education required.

Level 2: Secondary school plus a period of specific job training.

Level 3: College level education or trade apprenticeship required.

Level 4: University education required.

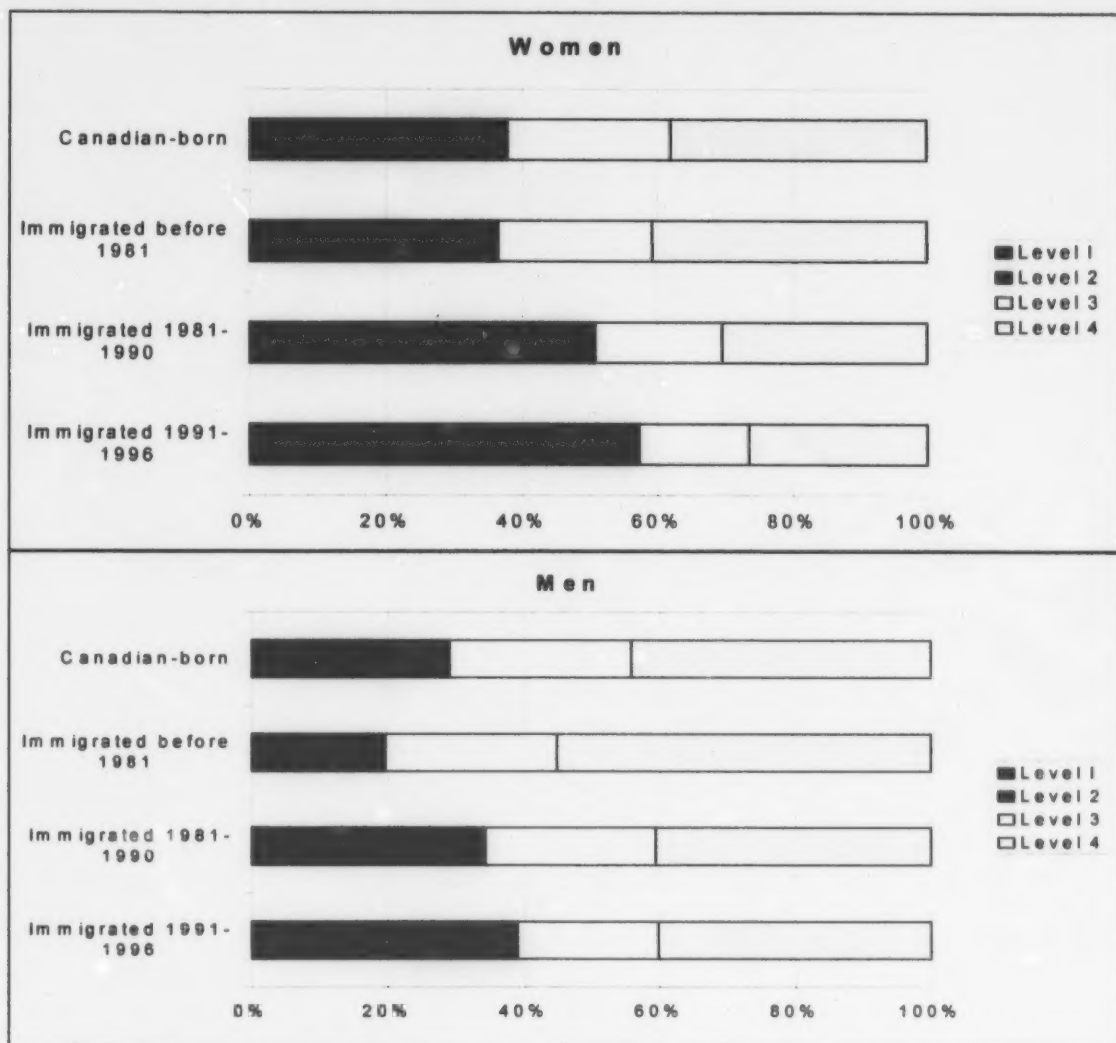
Table D.11: Employment by level of skill, women and men aged 25 to 64, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Women				
Canadian-born	5%	33%	24%	38%
Immigrated before 1981	7%	29%	23%	41%
Immigrated 1981-1990	12%	39%	19%	31%
Immigrated 1991-1996	18%	39%	16%	27%
Men				
Canadian-born	7%	22%	27%	44%
Immigrated before 1981	5%	14%	25%	55%
Immigrated 1981-1990	12%	23%	25%	41%
Immigrated 1991-1996	18%	21%	21%	40%

The jobs of recent immigrants require lower skills than the jobs of the Canadian-born. Four to five out of ten jobs of Canadian-born men (44%) require the highest level of skill, a university education. For the most recent immigrants the proportion is somewhat lower (40%). For women the proportions are 38 per cent for the Canadian-born and 27 per cent for the most recent immigrants. The share of jobs of the most recent immigrants that requires the lowest level of skill is several times as high as for the Canadian-born.

For both men and women, the skill content of jobs of earlier immigrants is higher than that of the Canadian-born. As with many other aspects of labour market activity and employment, this suggests the situation of immigrants becomes similar to the situation of the Canadian-born as their stay in Canada lengthens.

Figure D.5: Employment by skill level, women and men aged 25 to 64, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)



Education of recent immigrants not fully utilised

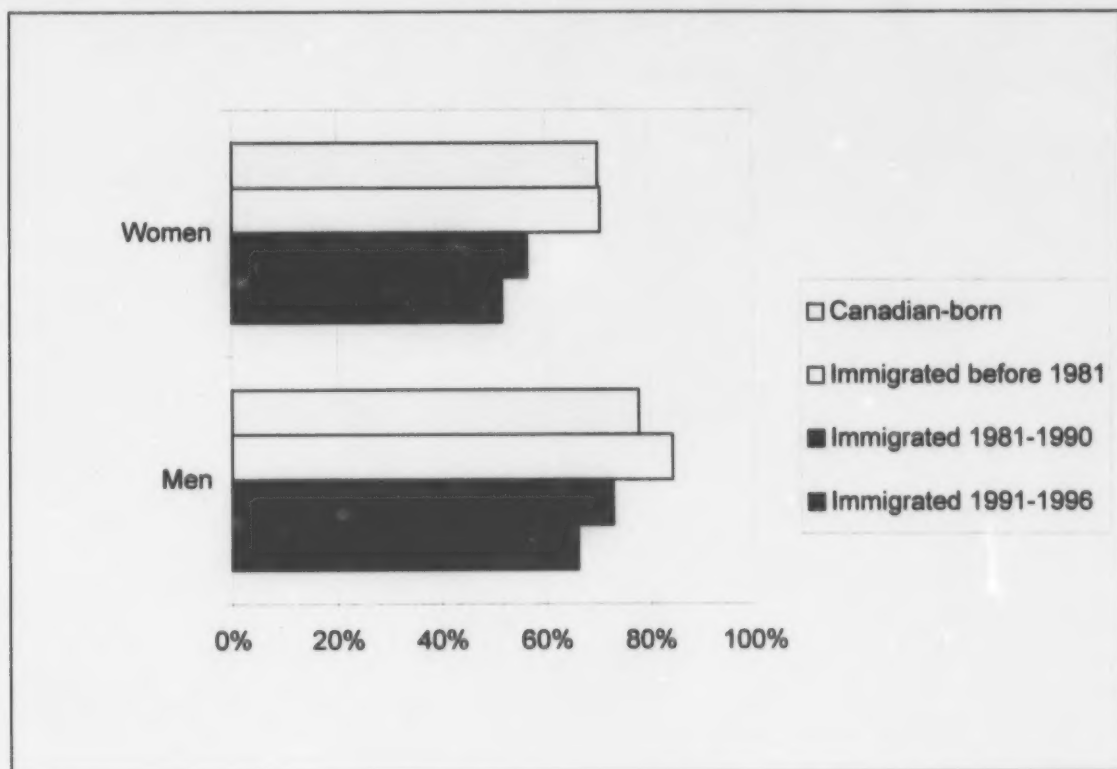
As there are differences in educational attainment between recent immigrants and the Canadian-born, the information presented above about skill levels of jobs does not directly indicate whether skills of recent immigrants are fully or less than fully employed in the economy. To do so, one has to compare the skill levels of jobs of recent immigrants and the Canadian-born for a given level of education. This is done in Table D.12 for persons holding a university degree, and can be done in the same way for other levels of educational attainment. The four skill levels are defined in the box above Table D.11.

Table D.12: Skill levels of jobs of university graduates, women and men aged 25 to 64, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Women				
Canadian-born	1%	14%	15%	70%
Immigrated before 1981	1%	14%	14%	71%
Immigrated 1981-1990	3%	24%	17%	57%
Immigrated 1991-1996	8%	26%	14%	52%
Men				
Canadian-born	1%	8%	13%	78%
Immigrated before 1981	1%	6%	9%	84%
Immigrated 1981-1990	3%	11%	13%	73%
Immigrated 1991-1996	8%	12%	14%	66%

The jobs of recent immigrants with a university degree do not require the same level of skill as the jobs of the Canadian-born. Seven in ten employed Canadian-born women with a university degree have a job requiring a university degree (70%). But only one-half of employed women who immigrated in the 1990s have a job at that level (52%). For Canadian-born men with a university degree the proportion in jobs requiring a university education is 78 per cent. Two-thirds of the jobs of the most recent male immigrants with a university degree are at that level (66%).

Figure D.6: Proportion of workers with a university degree who have a job requiring a university education, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996



PART E: INCOME

Sources and level of income

Sources of income show effect of migration

In this section, three broad sources of income are distinguished:

- (1) Employment income, consisting of wages and salaries or income from self-employment;
- (2) Other private income, consisting of investment income (mainly interest and dividends), retirement income and income from all other private sources; and
- (3) Transfers from government, including Unemployment Insurance benefits, Canada and Quebec Pension Plan benefits, Old Age Security benefits and the Guaranteed Income Supplement, and other benefits such as workers' compensation and social assistance. Also included are the Child Tax Benefit, refunds of the Goods and Services Tax, and provincial tax credits.

A person may have income from one, two or all three sources. Income reported in the 1996 census is income for the year 1995, of persons 15 years of age and over. Most immigrants who landed during or after 1995 have not had the full year 1995 to obtain income in Canada, and are therefore not included.

Table E.1: Persons with income by source and without income, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1995 (as a percentage of the population of 15 years and over)

	No income	Employment income	Other private income	Government transfers	Number of persons
Women					
Canadian-born	7%	68%	37%	55%	237,000
Immigrated before 1981	6%	59%	45%	58%	39,900
Immigrated 1981-1990	14%	59%	19%	56%	16,700
Immigrated 1991-1994	22%	47%	14%	58%	11,800
Men					
Canadian-born	4%	78%	34%	64%	222,500
Immigrated before 1981	1%	73%	45%	68%	37,200
Immigrated 1981-1990	7%	73%	18%	74%	15,600
Immigrated 1991-1994	9%	64%	16%	80%	10,400

Income from employment is the most common source of income for the Canadian-born. Sixty-eight per cent of Canadian-born women and 78 per cent of Canadian-born men had earnings from employment in 1995. A larger share of the Canadian-born than of the most recent immigrants have income from employment. For immigrants who arrived before the 1980s the proportion with employment earnings is low because they tend to be older and many are in retirement. The low share of the most recent immigrants with employment income reflects lower participation in the workforce.

Compared to the Canadian-born and earlier immigrants, the proportion of recent immigrants with no income is large, particularly so for women. However, the proportion of immigrants who do not have income decreases significantly with length of stay in Canada, and ultimately falls below that of the Canadian-born.

The share of recent immigrants who have other private income – income from investments, pension plans etc. – is lower than the share of the Canadian-born and earlier immigrants. This probably reflects the relatively young age of most recent immigrants, and lower savings related to the cost of and income loss associated with moving to a different country.

There are proportionately somewhat more recently immigrated than Canadian-born men who receive some form of transfer from government. The proportion of very recent immigrants reporting transfers from government as a source of income is higher than the proportion having income from employment. The relatively high proportion of earlier immigrants receiving transfers from government reflects the high share of seniors in this group, who generally receive Old Age Security and Canada and Quebec Pension Plan benefits.

Average income increases with length of stay

In Tables E.2 and E.3 in this section on sources and level of income, average income refers to income of persons with income, and excludes persons who report no income. The proportion of persons who report no income is given in Table E.1. In the next section on the distribution of income, which includes tables E.5 and E.6, average income refers to income of all persons, families or households, including those with no income.

Table E.2: Level of income and distribution of income by source, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1995

		Income by source (percent of total)		
	Average income of persons with income	Employment income	Other private income	Government transfers
Women				
Canadian-born	\$25,200	74%	14%	12%
Immigrated before 1981	\$26,500	67%	17%	15%
Immigrated 1981-1990	\$18,300	75%	7%	18%
Immigrated 1991-1994	\$12,600	65%	7%	28%
Men				
Canadian-born	\$37,900	79%	14%	7%
Immigrated before 1981	\$45,000	75%	16%	9%
Immigrated 1981-1990	\$26,600	85%	4%	10%
Immigrated 1991-1994	\$18,400	75%	6%	19%

Among persons who reported having income during the year 1995, the average income of recent immigrants is lower than that of other Canadians. Average income of very recent immigrants is one-half of that of the Canadian-born; those who immigrated during the 1980s have reached seventy per cent of that level; and earlier immigrants have higher incomes than the population born in Canada. The income of men who immigrated before 1981 is 20 per cent higher than that of the Canadian-born men. Among recent immigrants, the income of men is higher than that of women by 45 per cent; this difference increases to seventy per cent for earlier immigrants. Among the reasons for the difference in income between men and women are lower labour force participation and higher incidence of part-time work among women than among men, as shown in Part D.

Earnings from employment make up about the same proportion of income of recent immigrants as of persons born in Canada in the case of men, and a somewhat lower percentage in the case of women. By contrast, transfers from government make up a larger share of the income of recent immigrants than of others. This is mainly because the total income of recent immigrants is relatively low. Other private income makes up a relatively small share of income of recent immigrants.

Table E.3: Wage and salary income of persons who worked mostly full-time, as a percentage of the overall average, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1995

	Amount	Percentage of overall average
Canadian-born	\$38,100	101%
Immigrated before 1981	\$43,400	115%
Immigrated 1981-1990	\$31,200	82%
Immigrated 1991-1994	\$22,500	59%
All who worked mostly full time	\$37,900	100%

The wages and salaries earned by recent immigrants who worked mostly full-time in 1995 are well below the Ottawa average. As was shown in the previous section, recent immigrants generally have jobs that require lower skills than the jobs of the Canadian-born, and therefore would generally receive lower rates of pay. As well, annual earnings depend on whether a person was employed throughout the year or not. Recent immigrants are not as likely to have steady, year-round jobs as the Canadian-born.

Transfers from government a larger share of income except for seniors

To examine transfers from governments more closely, this section focuses on households. Households are classified according to the presence of immigrants and recent immigrants in the same way as in Part C. However, only immigrants who landed before 1995 are considered here. All households with immigrants who landed during 1995 and 1996 have been excluded. As transfers from government vary considerably with the age of the recipient, households are classified by age.

Defining "Age of household"

By age of household is meant the age of a principal person in the household. The age of family households is the age of the older of the spouses or the lone parent in the family. For non-family households, age refers to the age of the oldest person in the household.

Table E.4: Transfers from government to households, by age of household, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1995

	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 and over	All households
Share of households receiving transfers					
Canadian-born households	94%	80%	76%	100%	83%
Earlier immigrant households	95%	79%	75%	99%	83%
Recent immigrant households	97%	90%	91%	99%	91%
1980s immigrants	100%	87%	88%	99%	89%
1991-94 immigrants with others	83%	89%	92%	97%	91%
1991-94 immigrants only	95%	95%	99%	100%	96%
Average amount of transfer per receiving household					
Canadian-born households	\$3,900	\$4,100	\$5,000	\$15,400	\$6,900
Earlier immigrant households	\$3,000	\$4,500	\$5,000	\$16,100	\$8,500
Recent immigrant households	\$5,000	\$6,400	\$6,600	\$11,900	\$6,800
1980s immigrants	\$5,900	\$5,800	\$5,800	\$12,900	\$6,400
1991-94 immigrants with others	\$7,900	\$6,800	\$5,500	\$12,800	\$7,100
1991-94 immigrants only	\$3,300	\$7,400	\$9,100	\$7,700	\$7,600
Transfers from government as a share of average household income					
Canadian-born households	18%	6%	5%	33%	10%
Earlier immigrant households	14%	5%	5%	29%	10%
Recent immigrant households	34%	14%	10%	25%	14%
1980s immigrants	38%	10%	8%	28%	11%
1991-94 immigrants with others	22%	12%	7%	18%	11%
1991-94 immigrants only	33%	25%	29%	22%	26%

In 1995, the large majority of households received transfers from government. Almost all households with persons of 65 years of age and older received such transfers – Old Age Security and the Guaranteed Income Supplement, Canada and Quebec Pension Plan benefits. But more than four out of five households without seniors received some income from a government program, whether from Unemployment Insurance, Workers Compensation, social assistance, student assistance, or other programs.

Apart from households of seniors, recent immigrant households were more likely to receive a transfer from government than other households. These households were probably more in need of assistance from government during the early years after arriving in Canada, when many recent immigrants were not yet fully participating in the economy. As well, recent immigrant households are relatively large, and thus are likely to receive higher amounts of transfers either because more members are entitled to benefits like employment insurance payments or because of greater need. On the other hand, recent immigrant households would not have had time to build up significant entitlements under the Canada and Quebec Pension Plans.

The average payment received varies considerably by age of household. Households of Canadian-born seniors and of seniors who immigrated before 1981 received an average payment in the order of \$15,000 to \$16,000. Households of recently immigrated seniors on average received less than households of Canadian-born seniors.

Other households received from \$3,300 to \$9,100. By and large, these recent immigrant households had a higher probability of receiving government transfers and received higher average amounts than households of the Canadian-born and earlier immigrants.

Government transfers make up a smaller share of income of the households of recently immigrated seniors (25%) than of Canadian-born seniors (33%), while for other ages recent immigrant households have a larger share than Canadian-born households.

The distribution of income

From majority with personal income below \$10,000 to a large share at high end over time

Table E.5: Distribution of personal income, persons 15 years and over, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1995 (percentage distribution)

	Without income	\$1 to \$10,000	\$10,000 to \$30,000	\$30,000 to \$50,000	over \$50,000	Average income
Women						
Canadian-born	7%	24%	36%	23%	10%	\$23,500
Immigrated before 1981	6%	20%	41%	21%	12%	\$24,900
Immigrated 1981-1990	14%	33%	37%	12%	5%	\$15,700
Immigrated 1991-1994	22%	39%	33%	5%	2%	\$9,800
Men						
Canadian-born	4%	18%	26%	25%	27%	\$36,400
Immigrated before 1981	1%	11%	28%	24%	36%	\$44,800
Immigrated 1981-1990	7%	28%	35%	15%	14%	\$24,600
Immigrated 1991-1994	9%	36%	37%	12%	6%	\$16,800

Of very recent immigrants, 61 per cent of women and 45 per cent of men reported no income or income of less than \$10,000 in 1995. The share reporting no income or income below \$10,000 is lower for persons who immigrated during the 1980s, and even lower for earlier immigrants.

At the high end of the income scale, recent immigrants and especially very recent immigrants are underrepresented. The proportion with incomes over \$50,000 is half as large among immigrants who landed during the 1980s as among the Canadian-born.

If the circumstances of earlier immigrants can be taken as an indication of what recent immigrants can be expected to achieve with time, then a general, widespread upward shift can be expected in incomes of persons who immigrated during the 1980s and 1990s in years to come.

A high proportion of men (36%) who immigrated before the 1980s have incomes above \$50,000, and the income distribution of women who immigrated before the 1980s is similar to that of the Canadian-born.

More than one-half of very recent immigrant households have income below \$40,000

Table E.6: Distribution of household income, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1995 (percentage distribution)

Households	\$0 to \$20,000	\$20,000 to \$40,000	\$40,000 to \$60,000	\$60,000 to \$80,000	Over \$80,000	Average income
Canadian-born	16%	21%	21%	17%	24%	\$59,200
Earlier immigrants	13%	18%	19%	17%	34%	\$69,700
Recent immigrants	28%	26%	19%	11%	15%	\$45,800
1980s immigrants	25%	24%	20%	14%	18%	\$51,300
1991-94 immigrants with others	12%	27%	24%	15%	21%	\$56,500
1991-94 immigrants only	45%	31%	15%	5%	4%	\$28,500

In 1995, recent immigrant households had average income of \$45,800, or three-quarters (77%) of the income of Canadian-born, and two-thirds (66%) of the income of earlier immigrant households. The income of households consisting only of very recent immigrants is only one-half (48%) of the income of households of the Canadian-born.

Recent immigrant households are found in larger proportions than the Canadian-born in the lower income ranges. More than one-half of these households (54%) have incomes of less than \$40,000, compared to 37 per cent of Canadian-born and 31 per cent of earlier immigrant households. The income of more than one-quarter (28%) of recent immigrant households is less than \$20,000. At the other end of the income spectrum recent immigrant households are under-represented.

Close to one-half of very recent immigrants live in families with low incomes

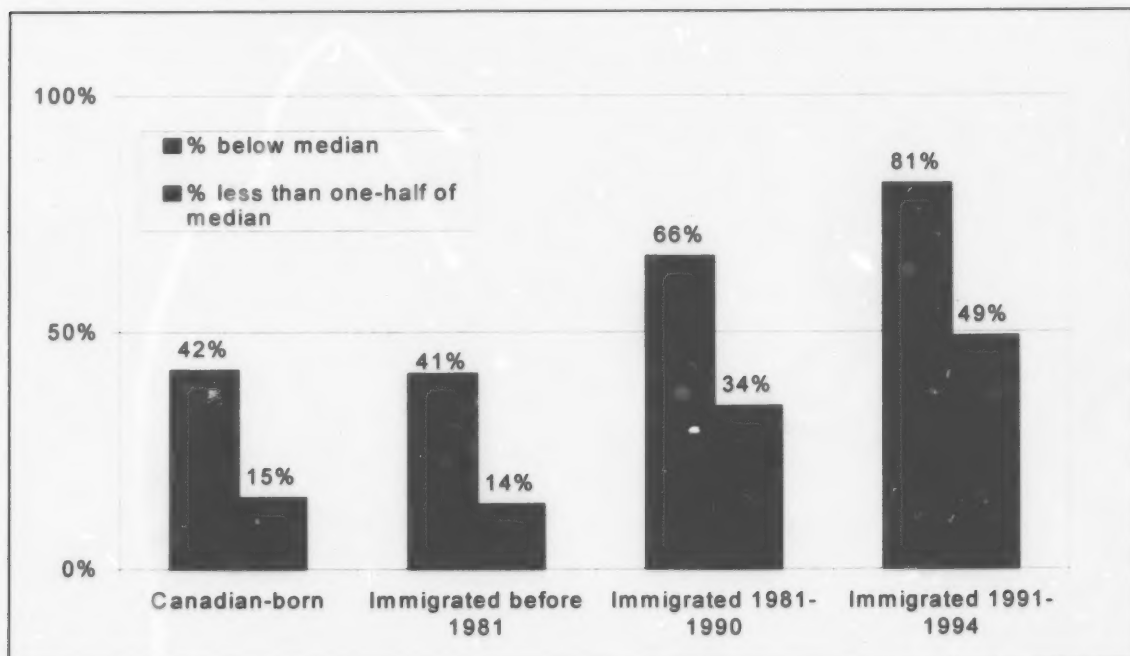
One way of examining income inequality is to see whether persons in certain groups are more likely than persons in other groups to have incomes that fall below the overall median income. The median income is the middle income when incomes are ordered by size, from high to low. One-half of incomes are higher, one-half are lower. And to measure more severe inequality, the percentage of incomes falling below one-half of the median income is examined.

Figure E.1 and Table E.7 show the percentage of people with income below the median. For people living in families, the family income was compared to the median family income. For non-family persons – much smaller in number, particularly among recent immigrants – their individual income was compared to the median income of all non-family persons. Unattached individuals under 15 years of age are not included as no income data is available. The proportion of persons with income below one-half of the median, shown in Figure E.1 and Table E.8, was derived in the same way.

In Ottawa in 1995, the median income of all families (defined as two or more persons related by blood, marriage, common-law status or adoption, and living together in the same household) was \$58,720. For individuals not living in families, median income was \$22,338.

As family size has not been considered in these calculations, and as larger families are likely to have higher income (but not necessarily higher income per member of the family), the number of persons in the total population living in families with income below the median is less than 50 per cent. 46 per cent of women and 43 per cent of men live in families with income below the median. 18 per cent of women and 16 per cent of men live in families with income below one-half of the median.

Figure E.1: Persons in families and unattached individuals with income below the median and below one-half of the median, as a percentage of the population, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1995



Recent immigrants are more likely than earlier immigrants and the Canadian-born to live in families with incomes that fall below the overall median, or if they do not live in families, to have income below the median for unattached individuals. They are also more likely to live in families with incomes that fall below one-half of the median income. The percentage of immigrants in families with incomes in the lower part of the income distribution declines in relation to their length of stay in Canada.

Table E.7: Persons in families and unattached individuals with income below the median, as a percentage of all persons, by age and gender, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1995

	Under 15	15 to 24	25 to 64	65 and over	All persons
Women					
Canadian-born	47%	47%	38%	55%	43%
Immigrated before 1981	n.a.	58%	39%	57%	44%
Immigrated 1981-1990	79%	71%	63%	60%	66%
Immigrated 1991 - 1994	84%	88%	80%	65%	81%
Men					
Canadian-born	47%	41%	35%	53%	40%
Immigrated before 1981	n.a.	48%	34%	53%	38%
Immigrated 1981-1990	76%	75%	62%	66%	66%
Immigrated 1991 - 1994	86%	87%	77%	73%	81%

The proportion of people with incomes below the median varies with age. For the Canadian-born, the highest proportions are found among seniors. But this is not so for recent immigrants, where incomes below the median are more common at younger ages, with only one exception.

In all age groups the proportion of persons with income below the overall median is higher among recent immigrants than among the Canadian-born, and the difference is quite large for all age categories except the highest. The results for seniors probably reflect programs of income support for seniors as well as extended-family arrangements, which are relatively common for recently immigrated seniors.

Table E.8: Persons in families and unattached individuals with income below one-half of the median, as a percentage of all persons, by age and gender, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1995

	Under 15	15 to 24	25 to 64	65 and over	All persons
Women					
Canadian-born	19%	23%	13%	10%	16%
Immigrated before 1981	n.a.	27%	14%	13%	14%
Immigrated 1981-1990	50%	42%	33%	25%	35%
Immigrated 1991 - 1994	56%	59%	47%	35%	50%
Men					
Canadian-born	19%	19%	11%	15%	14%
Immigrated before 1981	n.a.	27%	11%	17%	13%
Immigrated 1981-1990	44%	44%	29%	28%	33%
Immigrated 1991 - 1994	56%	53%	44%	34%	48%

One-half of very recent immigrants in Ottawa live in a low income situation. Close to one-half of very recent immigrants with ages from 25 to 64 have such low incomes (47 % of women and 44% of men). These shares are more than 30 percentage points higher than the shares of the Canadian-born, a large difference. Similar differences are found in other age groups except seniors where the differences are somewhat smaller. The share of the most recent immigrants with income below one-half of the overall median income ranges from 44 per cent to 59 per cent for ages under 65. This share drops to between 29 and 50 per cent for immigrants who landed during the 1980s, while for seniors the share drops to less than 30 per cent.

PART F: HOUSING

Crowded accommodation more common for recent immigrants

In Tables F.1 and F.2, a room is defined as an enclosed area within a dwelling that is suitable for year-round living: a living room, bedroom, kitchen, or a finished room in attic or basement. Not counted as rooms are bathrooms, halls, vestibules and spaces used solely for business purposes. Accommodation is defined as "crowded" when there are more persons in the household than rooms in the dwelling, i.e. when there is more than one person per room.

Table F.1: Number of persons per room, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

Households	Fewer than 0.5 persons	0.5 to 0.74 persons	0.75 to 0.99 persons	1 or more persons	Number of households
Canadian-born	65%	29%	4%	3%	205,700
Earlier immigrants	65%	28%	4%	3%	51,500
Recent immigrants	27%	35%	12%	26%	31,900
1980s immigrants	34%	37%	11%	18%	16,400
1990s immigrants with others	23%	36%	13%	28%	6,300
1990s immigrants only	17%	29%	14%	40%	9,300

Households of recent immigrants have space per person that is well below the average in the Ottawa area. One-quarter of recent immigrant households (26%) live in crowded conditions (i.e. there are fewer rooms than people in the home). The incidence of crowding is highest among households consisting only of very recent immigrants (40%). By contrast, crowding is very rare among households of the Canadian-born and earlier immigrants (3%).

Large households likely to have crowded accommodation

Table F.2: Persons per room and size of household, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

Household size	Type of household	Fewer than 0.5 persons	0.5 to 0.74 persons	0.75 to 0.99 persons	1 or more persons	Number of households
1 to 3 persons	Canadian-born	78%	19%	1%	2%	158,000
	Earlier immigrants	81%	16%	1%	2%	36,600
	Recent immigrants	40%	36%	7%	16%	18,600
	1980s immigrants	52%	33%	6%	9%	9,300
	1990s immigrants with others	36%	40%	8%	15%	3,400
	1990s immigrants only	25%	37%	10%	28%	5,800
4 or 5 persons	Canadian-born	26%	62%	9%	3%	44,600
	Earlier immigrants	31%	59%	7%	4%	13,300
	Recent immigrants	10%	40%	19%	31%	10,300
	1980s immigrants	12%	48%	17%	23%	5,900
	1990s immigrants with others	9%	41%	18%	31%	1,900
	1990s immigrants only	3%	21%	23%	53%	2,500
6 or more persons	Canadian-born	5%	41%	36%	18%	3,100
	Earlier immigrants	5%	37%	31%	25%	1,600
	Recent immigrants	1%	10%	21%	68%	3,100
	1980s immigrants	0%	14%	25%	59%	1,200
	1990s immigrants with others	2%	11%	22%	67%	1,000
	1990s immigrants only	0%	5%	14%	81%	1,000

Crowding is related to size of household. The larger the household, the greater the chance that there are more persons than rooms in the dwelling. This pattern is found among households of the Canadian-born as well as immigrants. But there is much less crowding in households of the Canadian-born than in households of recent immigrants, whatever their size.

As shown earlier, households of immigrants who arrived before the 1980s are similar to the households of the Canadian-born in size. They also have accommodation that is similar in size to that of the Canadian-born. This suggests that immigrants form large households and live in relatively crowded conditions for a period after their arrival, so as to keep the cost of accommodation down. But when economic circumstances permit, they split into smaller household units or move to more spacious accommodation. Households also become smaller when children of immigrants become adults and establish their own households.

Four in ten households of recent immigrants have high housing cost in relation to income

Table F.3: Cost of accommodation as a share of household income, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1995 (percentage distribution)

Households	Less than 30%	30% to 50%	50% or more
Canadian-born	76%	14%	10%
Earlier immigrants	80%	13%	8%
Recent immigrants	59%	22%	19%
1980s immigrants	63%	21%	16%
1991-94 immigrants with others	69%	20%	10%
1991-94 immigrants only	44%	26%	30%
All households	75%	15%	11%

Four in ten (41%) recent immigrant households have high housing cost in relation to income, and more than five in ten households (56%) made up exclusively of immigrants who have been in Canada for five years or less spend more than 30 per cent of their income on accommodation. For three out of ten of these very recent immigrant households (30%) the cost of accommodation exceeds 50 per cent of income. Of Canadian-born households, one quarter (24%) have housing cost in excess of 30 per cent of income.

Housing costs of more than 30 per cent of income are considered burdensome, and households facing that level of cost as a rule have low incomes. Many households of recently arrived immigrants have low incomes and try to keep the cost of accommodation down by choosing small quarters and making their households large. But often this is not enough to bring housing costs down to less than 30 per cent of income.

Housing of recent immigrants of same quality

Table F.4: Period of construction, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

Households	Before 1961	1961-1980	After 1980
Canadian-born	27%	41%	32%
Earlier immigrants	27%	41%	32%
Recent immigrants	20%	44%	36%
1980s immigrants	21%	40%	39%
1990s immigrants with others	23%	42%	35%
1990s immigrants only	16%	52%	33%
All households	26%	41%	32%

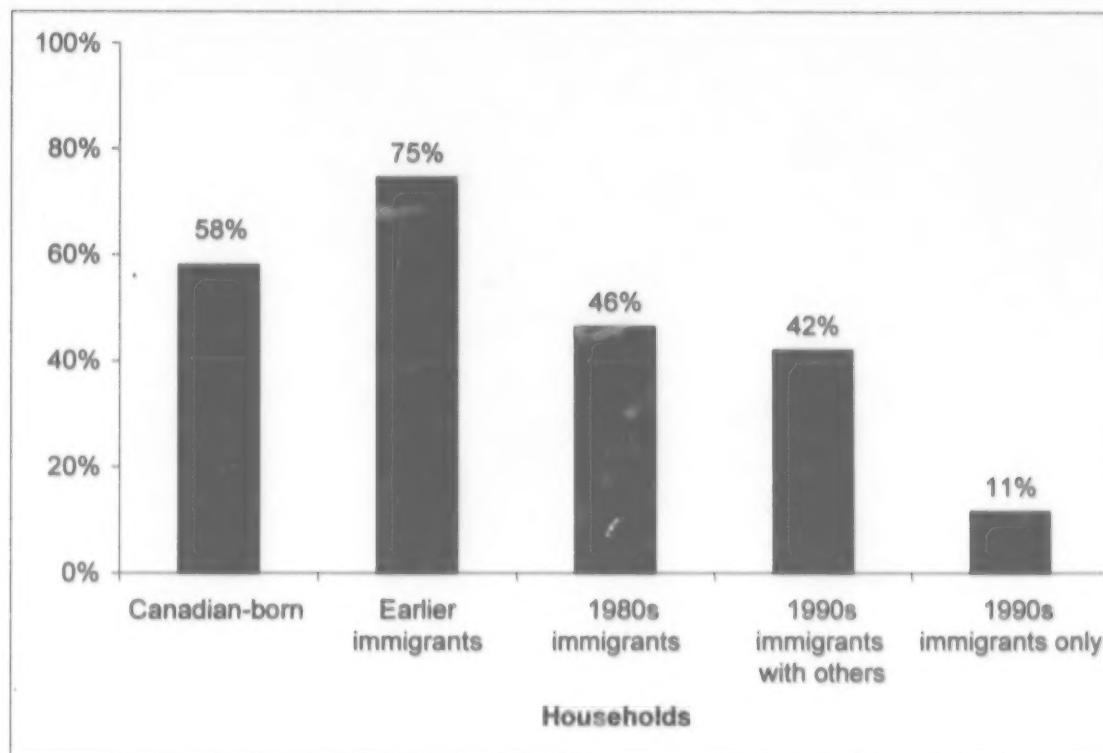
The dwellings where households of immigrants who arrived after 1980 live have been more recently built than the houses of the Canadian-born, and the proportion in need of major repair is relatively low. This suggests that, although the cost of housing is clearly a challenge for many recent immigrants, they tend not to resort to sub-standard accommodation.

Table F.5: Quality of housing, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996 (percentage distribution)

Households	Regular maintenance	Minor repairs	Major repairs
Canadian-born	67%	26%	7%
Earlier immigrants	67%	27%	6%
Recent immigrants	69%	24%	7%
1980s immigrants	68%	25%	7%
1990s immigrants with others	67%	27%	7%
1990s immigrants only	72%	22%	6%
All households	67%	26%	7%

Home ownership rare among very recent immigrants

Figure F.1: Households owning their home as a percentage of all households, Ottawa Metropolitan Area, 1996



Only one in ten (11%) households consisting exclusively of immigrants who arrived during 1991-1996 own their home, compared to six in ten (58%) households of the Canadian-born and three-quarters (75%) of earlier immigrants. The rate of home ownership among other recent immigrant households is between 40 and 50 per cent.

Home-ownership is much higher among earlier immigrants than the Canadian-born. This probably reflects the higher average age of earlier immigrants, but it may also point to different choices. It also suggests that the high frequency of rental tenure among households consisting only of recent immigrants is a temporary phenomenon that is a part of the adjustment process.